

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF DR.
XIAODONG WANG

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Xiaodong Wang, of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, for being awarded the \$1 million Shaw Prize in Life Science and Medicine.

Dr. Wang, 43, will receive the international award in September from the Hong Kong-based Shaw Prize Foundation. A professor of biochemistry, Dr. Wang will receive the award for his discovery of the biochemical basis of programmed cell death which is a vital process that balances cell birth and prevents cancer. His scientific breakthrough marks a turning point in the history of medicine and will indeed benefit the lives of millions around the world.

The Shaw Prize in Life Science and Medicine is presented annually and sometimes referred to as the "Nobel Prize of the East," is awarded to those who have achieved significant breakthroughs in scientific research and applications. Dr. Wang has discovered mechanisms responsible for programmed cell death. As a doctor, I am honored to know that great scientific research continues and the heart of such work is being conducted at UT Southwestern.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Dr. Xiaodong Wang for his outstanding leadership. He is an excellent scientist who has greatly benefited his fellow man, and I hope that his research will act as a catalyst for others to strive for excellent and great achievements.

HONORING JACK WEATHERFORD
ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jack Weatherford for his extraordinary service to the Smyrna/Rutherford County Airport Authority. Mr. Weatherford served on the task force that established the airport authority, and after many years of outstanding work, he is now retiring.

Today, I honor Mr. Weatherford for his achievements in Rutherford County's aviation industry, but his success has not been limited to that field. For 40 years, Mr. Weatherford led Mid-South Bank and Trust, which later merged with Sun Trust Banks. He served as President of the Tennessee Bankers Association, and in 1986, he was honored with the establishment of the Jack O. Weatherford Chair of Finance at Middle Tennessee State University.

A resident of my hometown of Murfreesboro, TN, Mr. Weatherford has been

instrumental in Smyrna Airport's success. Under his leadership, the airport added ten new buildings and hangars and developed a 400 acre business park that included new infrastructure, a business center and a new terminal.

Smyrna Airport now is the State's third largest airport and its busiest general aviation airport.

During Mr. Weatherford's 14 years as Chairman of the airport authority, the airport received many accolades, including the Governor's Silver Star Award and the Tennessee Department of Transportation's Best Governing Body and Airport of the Year awards.

While the airport's growth has kept him busy, Mr. Weatherford has found time to remain active in the community. He helped found the Main Street Association and Leadership Rutherford, and he has been active with the Chamber of Commerce, MTSU Foundation and Rotary Club.

Mr. Weatherford's leadership has served Rutherford County well and will make it a better place for years to come.

DECLARING THAT THE UNITED
STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE
GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose this resolution because the process under which it is being considered is deeply flawed and unfair to those with legitimate opposing points of view. There are Members in this chamber who want to offer specific plans on Iraq and they have the right to have these proposals debated and voted on.

This entire debate is a sham, Mr. Speaker. This resolution was brought to the floor to help Republicans win in November, not to help our country win the war in Iraq. Make no mistake about it; it is very important for this House to formally acknowledge our support for our troops, especially when they are in harm's way, fighting a difficult and protracted war. But this resolution is not a show of support. It is a political tool with little substance. In fact, the only provision of substance is the third Resolved clause which "declares that it is not in the national security interest of the United States to set an arbitrary date for the withdrawal or redeployment of United States Armed Forces from Iraq." I happen to agree that we should not set a public deadline for withdrawal. I don't think it makes sense strategically and, even worse, I think it puts our commanders on the ground at a disadvantage because it provides the resistance with a clear target of how long they need to hold out. If we withdraw our troops prematurely, we run the risk of the young Iraqi government folding and the vacuum being filled by a government friendly to terrorists.

This debate should have been about alternatives. That is a primary function of Congress. To debate our country's most important issues. I can think of no issue more important than whether we succeed or fail in Iraq. Rather than add to the vast amount of rhetoric being tossed around by both sides, I would like to present what I think needs to be done for us to succeed in Iraq. First, we must dramatically improve our intelligence operations. To be sure, the death of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi is a great accomplishment by our brave military in Iraq. But successes such as this one are too rare because most Iraqi civilians still do not feel secure enough to turn over valuable intelligence to American or Iraqi government officials. We desperately need an intelligence alliance in order to provide troops with the information they need to get the job done in Iraq.

The second thing we must do to succeed in Iraq is step up the training and readiness of the Iraqi Security Forces. Congress continues to fail in its oversight of Iraqi Security Force readiness. Because it is so difficult to get a straight and consistent answer out of the Administration regarding the readiness of Iraqi Security Forces, it is virtually impossible to determine when we will be able to begin bringing American troops home. As of this week, the Administration tells us there are 264,600 "trained and equipped" Iraqi Security Forces. Unfortunately the definition of "trained and equipped" has been elusive or not clear enough to replace American troops with Iraqi or international troops. I believe that for every fully trained Iraqi soldier, one American soldier should come home. Clearly, this isn't happening.

The third thing we must do to succeed in Iraq is to continue our support of the democratically elected Iraqi government. A strong Iraqi government will be able to provide incentives to its people to help quell the violence. This support cannot be merely military support. It must be comprehensive and include the full range of services of a functioning government. Iraq's leaders face a monumental task. Quelling the violence will not be enough to send them on the path to success. Make no mistake about it; their success is closely linked to whether our mission in Iraq will be considered a success.

In closing, I would like to comment on the Whereas clause in this resolution that states that it is "the steadfast resolve of the United States and its partners since September 11, 2001, helped persuade the government of Libya to surrender its weapons of mass destruction." Libya made the right decision to abandon its WMD programs. Our resolve in the Global War on Terror convinced Libya that the cost was too high to continue to pursue WMD. However, before this decision Libya was a primary state sponsor of terror. It now must honor its commitments to the victims of that terror, including the families of the victims of Pan Am 103. In taking responsibility for the bombing of Pan Am 103—an attack which took the lives of 189 Americans—Libya agreed

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

to pay compensation to the families of those who died. While 80 percent of that agreement has been fulfilled, the remaining 20 percent was held back by Libya as long as it remained on the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism. They have now been removed from that list, and must now follow through on their agreements.

Libya has renounced its weapons of mass destruction and declared its intention to be a responsible member of the community of nations. It should now make good on the remainder of its promises to the families of victims of its terrorism. With these steps, Libya will be an example of a country that has not only changed its course but has recognized its responsibility for past acts. Until it completes this journey fully and completely, doubts will remain about the nature of this regime. These doubts will be impediments to its progress as a full actor in diplomatic exchanges with the world. The United States will watch Libya's actions as well as its words. This vigilance will ensure that we will prevail in the Global War on Terror.

Mr. Speaker, I will vote no on this resolution. I hope that the next time we have a debate on Iraq, it will be substantive and offer solutions. As a coequal branch of government responsible for the welfare of our courageous men and women in uniform, we should settle for no less.

IN HONOR OF FRANK BARROW,
MAYOR OF DENTON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Frank Barrow for his admirable devotion to his family, friends, and his community. Mr. Barrow died at the age of 83; he was a model citizen to the City of Denton. He left in his wake a loving and adoring family.

Frank Barrows lived in Denton, TX, for 71 years. During his life, Frank was a successful businessman, a leader in his church and served his community as the Mayor of Denton. He helped craft the Denton which I know and love today.

One of the richest gifts Mr. Barrows left was the Denton Community Theater. Helping found the theater, and serving the organization for 30 years, Frank brought a rich culture to the neighborhood. His legacy in the theater and commerce will be remembered.

It was my pleasure to serve Frank Barrows. I extend my sympathies to his family and friends. May the example of this man, who enriched the lives of those around him, be inspiration to all who seek their dreams to serve their family and fellow man.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BILLY
WALKER

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Billy Walker, a star on the

stage of the Grand Ole Opry. A resident of Hendersonville, TN, Billy, his wife, Bettie, and two of his band members passed away late last month in a tragic car accident.

Before he found fame at the Opry, Billy honed his musical skills in his home state of Texas. Growing up, he drew his greatest inspiration from Gene Autry's music. And in 1947, he launched his own career.

Seven years later, Billy landed his first hit with "Thank You for Calling." Just six years later, he found his greatest success when he joined the Grand Ole Opry, playing alongside his wife. His single "Charlie's Shoes" hit No. 1 on the charts in 1962.

While he found fame in the Volunteer State, his Texas roots were always honored by his nickname, "The Tall Texan."

For more than 40 years, Billy continued performing at the Opry and on countless other stages. "The Tall Texan" lived an inspirational and admirable life. I know he will be deeply missed by his family, his friends and his fans.

DECLARING THAT THE UNITED
STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE
GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, although the recent death of Zarqawi did not end terrorism in Iraq, it delivered a devastating blow to the al Qaeda network. Since June 4th coalition and Iraqi forces have killed 11 other leaders of the organization.

As progress continues in Iraq, a critical debate continues throughout the halls of Congress. We cannot afford to abandon our mission simply because certain politicians believe that waving a white flag of surrender will magically deliver peace. While a timeline for withdrawal might be politically popular, it is not a strategy for victory.

As Senate Democrats attempt to gain support for their latest proposal of retreat and defeat in Iraq, U.S. troops and Iraqi Security Forces remain committed to fighting terrorists who threaten the lives of American and Iraqi citizens.

Republicans will continue to support policies that enable these brave troops to complete their mission protecting American families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11th.

IN HONOR OF L.A. NELSON,
MAYOR OF DENTON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of L.A. Nelson for his admirable devotion to his family, friends, and his community. Mr. Nelson died at the age of 80; he was a model citizen to the City of Denton. He left in his wake a loving and adoring family.

Mr. Nelson was born in Hugo, OK. He served in the Navy during World War II. After

the war, he went to Denton to attend college. Soon, Mr. Nelson became one of the city's leading lawyers and served on the City Council from 1966–1970 before being elected to mayor in 1969.

L.A. Nelson is best remembered for his dedication to the City of Denton. He was president of the Denton Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Flow Memorial Hospital. He was instrumental in the construction of a new City Hall and the creation of Ray Roberts Lake.

It has been my honor to serve Mr. L.A. Nelson. His tenure as the Mayor of Denton impressed me greatly, and today, I extend my sympathies to his family and friends. May the example of this man, who enriched the lives of those around him, be an inspiration to all who seek their dreams to serve their family and fellow man.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. CHARLES
M. CHAMBERS

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the extraordinary and diverse career and accomplishments of Dr. Charles M. Chambers. I extend my congratulations on his recent appointment as chancellor of Lawrence Technological University, and I recognize his dedication to education throughout Michigan and the world.

Dr. Chambers has already left an indelible mark on Lawrence Tech through his thirteen years as President, a trend that will certainly continue under his direction as chancellor of the University. Under his leadership, Lawrence Tech has set a number of records and has achieved national recognition as an institution dedicated to innovative and effective methods of education, often setting the standard to which other universities strive. Among the many accomplishments Lawrence Tech has made under Dr. Chambers' Presidency is its status as Michigan's first wireless laptop campus, contributing to Lawrence Tech's recognition as one of the top fifty unwired campuses in the country.

Throughout his service to Lawrence Tech, Dr. Chambers has demonstrated his dedication to the enhancement and expansion of education through the dramatic transformation of Lawrence Tech's campus, the enormous increase in student scholarships and community outreach, and the expansion of academic programs offered at Lawrence Tech, including its first doctoral programs. Additionally, Dr. Chambers has overseen the creation of learning centers and higher education partnerships worldwide.

Dr. Charles M. Chambers has served Lawrence Technological University and the State of Michigan with honor and pride throughout the duration of his career with the University. I congratulate him on his recent appointment, which is a direct result of his continued dedication to education and to the success of Lawrence Technological University.

HONORING ASHLEY PHILIPS

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ashley Philips, a young woman of enormous potential whose life was tragically cut much too short this past weekend.

Ashley Philips was a vibrant and ambitious young woman who seemed destined for success in whatever path she chose. She was an excellent student, having earned honors and achieved a superior grade point average at Tarpon Springs High in my hometown, where she participated in the veterinary program. She was a good athlete and ran track at school.

Ashley also was dedicated to her community. She volunteered to help local senior citizens, worked at an area day care, and interned in the city clerk's office in Oldsmar, FL, in my congressional district. She also was the granddaughter of two of my closest friends, Oldsmar Mayor Jerry Beverland and his wife, Wanda, and was to serve as my congressional page this summer. I know they and Ashley's mother, Hope, and brother, Austin, were proud of what she had already accomplished, and looked forward to all that was to come for this remarkable young woman.

Ashley also had daring dreams and lofty goals. She wanted to do so many things, including becoming a veterinarian, lawyer, photographer, and a writer. She no doubt would have achieved all that she had hoped. Her grandfather expressed how everyone feels, noting that she "was a brilliant girl with a brilliant future, snatched away in the blink of an eye."

Mr. Speaker, I grieve for Ashley's family and friends. They are really the only ones who can truly understand how special she was and know how greatly she will be missed. Her friends and family and those with whom she came into contact would surely agree that the world is a much better place for having had her in it, no matter however briefly. I pray that her memory, and the knowledge that she will live in eternal peace, will comfort those who cared for her in this time of great sadness and sorrow.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MANUEL
"MANNY" CORTEZ**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Manuel Cortez for his outstanding service and memorable impact on the city of Las Vegas. Manuel passed away on Sunday, June 18, 2006 at the age of 67.

Manny, a resident of Las Vegas since 1944, was instrumental in making the city one of the world's top vacation destinations. When Manny took over the Convention Authority, Las Vegas had 73,730 hotel and motel rooms and two major convention centers, including the then-new Sands Exposition and Convention Center, which opened its first phase in late 1990. Las Vegas hosted approximately

21.3 million visitors in 1991, an early stage of what became an unprecedented era of local growth following The Mirage's 1989 debut. By the time that boom halted in summer 2000, Las Vegas had added multiple world-class resorts, including Bellagio, Mandalay Bay and The Venetian. Today, the city today boasts 129,475 rooms and three of the nation's largest convention centers.

In the period following the terrorist attacks of September 2001 and the subsequent U.S. economic slowdown, Manny oversaw a highly flexible marketing strategy that helped Las Vegas recover more quickly than many competing destinations. Part of Manny's advertising campaign included the forever popular tag line, "what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas."

On May 5, 2004, Manny resigned as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, a position he held for 13 years.

Manny served four terms as a Clark County Commissioner, beginning in 1976. He also served on the governing board of the University Medical Center, as well as the Las Vegas Valley Water District and the Metropolitan Police Department fiscal affairs boards. He was honored in 1999 by having a local elementary school named for him, and was also named Travel Agent Magazine's United States Person of the Year.

The most important part of Manny's life was his family. He leaves behind his loving wife of 45 years, Joanna Cortez; daughters, Cynthia Musgrove and her husband, Dan, and Catherine Cortez Masto and her husband, Paul; grandson, Andrew Musgrove; granddaughter, Christina Musgrove; mother, Mary Cortez; sister, Patricia Snider; aunt, Mary Tapia; and numerous nieces, nephews and in-laws. He was preceded in death by his father, Edward C. Cortez.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Manny Cortez on the floor of the House. He was a good friend who served the residents and guests of Las Vegas with honor, and he will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO THE CHILDREN'S
MUSICAL THEATER OF SAN JOSE**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and commend the Children's Musical Theater of San Jose, CMT, for winning a National Endowment for the Arts, NEA, grant award. The Children's Musical Theater of San Jose was the only theater company in California—and the only children's theater nationwide—to receive the prestigious American Masterpieces Grant.

The Children's Musical Theater of San Jose trains and educates today's youth so that they will become the artists, patrons, and leaders of tomorrow. CMT combines a commitment to casting all auditioners with the professionalism of a premier children's theater. A vital ingredient to their success has been the leadership and vision of Artistic Director Kevin R. Hauge. Mr. Hauge is as interested in the development of his actors as he is in the production of theater; he continually works to augment the

interpersonal skills and self-confidence of the children while creating immensely popular performances.

I am proud to recognize the Children's Musical Theater for its great success in theater and in the development of its talented young actors. CMT is a deserving recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts American Masterpieces Grant. Artistic and creative innovation is part of what makes America a vibrant society, and I commend the Children's Musical Theater for their contribution to San Jose and our Nation's cultural wealth.

TRIBUTE TO THE VILLAGE OF
PEOTONE, IL**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Village of Peotone which is celebrating its 150th birthday. The Village of Peotone lies wholly within the 11th Congressional District in Illinois.

In 1856, the Illinois Central Railroad was completed. Land not held by the railroad was to be occupied by settlers. Thus, the Village of Peotone saw its first residents. Two years later the population of the town was 125 people and the first school began to teach classes in 1860. In 1869, you could find dirt streets, several homes and a few businesses. The first Village Board was also formed in 1869.

In 1871, Frederick Rathje and Christoph Elling agreed to construct a windmill to grind the grain from area farmers. In 1872, Frederick's son, H.A. Rathje built the Peotone Windmill. When the mill came into production it provided a variety of grain products such as fine wheat flour, rye, buckwheat flour, and cornmeal. The mill was also a primary source of feed for the local livestock industry. In 1982, Henry's grandson donated the mill and the land upon which it stands to the Village of Peotone. The H.A. Rathje is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Village of Peotone continued to grow and prosper. Many new businesses such as a photo gallery, an opera house, and blacksmith shop opened for business. Today, Peotone is a thriving community with over 3,385 residents and over 60 businesses located within the Village. The Village boasts the tranquility of a country life-style where the streets are wide, curbed and shaded with ancient trees of all varieties.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to identify and recognize other communities in their own districts which can be shown as an example of living the American dream.

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR JERRY
HATTER**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life, service and example of Pastor Jerry Hatter. Pastor Hatter has found his home and place of service at the Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church, in Ypsilanti, MI.

Born in Haynesville, LA, on July 17, 1945, Pastor Hatter found his calling early in life through the care and love of his aunt and uncle. Baptized at the age of nine, Jerry began his service as a Sunday school teacher and later as an assistant financial secretary for the Mt. Obie C.M.E. Church in Homer, LA. His skills in finance led him to Grambling State University, where he earned an accounting degree in 1968.

Pastor Hatter continued his education as he moved to the Detroit area, earning an M.B.A. from the University of Detroit in 1976, his State of Michigan Real Estate Broker license in 1982 and passing his C.P.A. examination in 1984. The commitment Pastor Hatter has for education has only been surpassed by his religious strength and his service to others in his community.

In 1972, Pastor Hatter joined Oak Grove A.M.E. Church in Detroit, serving that church community for 19 years as a Trustee, member of the male choir and Minister of Business and Finance. Pastor Hatter received his call to serve as a minister in 1986 and was ordained in 1989 at the St. Stephen A.M.E. Church in Detroit. He served as an Associate Minister at Oak Grove Church until 1991.

In August of 1991, Pastor Hatter began his service at Brown Chapel. In the 15 years he has served the congregation and community, Pastor Hatter has established several outreach ministries, opened a child care center, set up the Brown Chapel Foundation public charity and was elected Pastor of the Year by the Michigan Conference Lay Organization in 1995. Along with these great works, Pastor Hatter is also a mentor for the Village Initiative to foster reduction and prevention of youth incarceration, a Chairman of the Fourth District Commission on Evangelism, as well as the president of both the Mid-Michigan A.M.E. Churches Fellowship and the Michigan Conference Minister's Protective League.

Throughout his life, Pastor Jerry Hatter has served others in his community. He has worked hard to put his faith into action, serving as an example of what it means to be a leader and a teacher. I honor Pastor Hatter for his tremendous achievements and his true dedication to his fellow man.

RECOGNIZING PARTICIPANTS IN THE NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize three outstanding National Spelling Bee participants from my district: Andy Wade, 14, from Putnam County, WV, James Cook, 13, from Martinsburg, WV and Jonathan Nicklin Allen, 13, from Romney, WV.

2006 marked the 78th annual Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee. This event was created by the Louisville Courier-Journal in 1925 with only nine contestants; today it has grown to 274. The National Spelling Bee is sponsored by Scripps Howard, Inc. and is held each year to help students broaden their vocabularies, improve their spelling, and develop correct English usage that will help them throughout their lives. This is the largest and longest running competition to promote education.

Sponsored by the Charleston Gazette, Andy Wade, an eighth grader at Winfield Middle School, advanced to the third round. He has now competed in five spelling bees. James Cook is also an eighth-grader and attends Charles Town Middle School. Sponsored by The Journal in Martinsburg, he advanced to the third round. Jonathan Nicklin Allen, an eighth grader at Romney Middle school, was sponsored by the Hampshire Review in Romney and advanced to the second round.

RECOGNIZING BOBBY AND NILIE SNIDER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today—the 50th wedding anniversary of Bobby and Nilie Snider. This event will take place on July 14, 2006, but the Snider Family is celebrating the event on June 25, 2006.

Bobby Joe Snider was born on February 6, 1938 in Weaver, AL, to Herman and Gertice Snider. His wife, Nilie Finley Snider, was born on May 7, 1938, in Cedar Springs, AL, to Claude and Nile Finley. Mr. and Mrs. Snider were married on July 14, 1956 at Weaver Methodist Church. Together they raised three children, and Nilie went on to work in retail after the children were grown. Bobby retired from Liberty National as an insurance agent. They have two sons, one son-in-law, one daughter, two daughters-in-law, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Bobby and Nilie are active members of Weaver Baptist Church in Weaver, AL where Bobby has served as a Deacon. On June 25, 2006, a reception will be held in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary. I salute this lovely couple on the 50th year of their life together and join their family in honoring them on this special occasion.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF COURAGEOUS VETERAN ROBERT BROWN OF PLYMOUTH, MN

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a member of the Greatest Generation who recently passed away.

Minnesota lost a true hero in Robert Brown of Plymouth, MN, of the 3rd Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, Bob was a Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps. His education at Columbia University was interrupted by World War II. He eagerly enlisted in the Marines and proudly served his nation during World War II, the Korean Conflict and Vietnam.

Bob retired from the military in 1967 and began a career with Rockwell International that sent him on other missions to promote freedom and economic opportunity all over the world, including Iran and South Korea.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Brown was one of our nation's best and brightest. And the legacy of his

courage will live on forever in the hearts of freedom-loving people everywhere.

Lt. Colonel Brown earned many decorations during his 23 years of service to his country: the American Campaign Medal, the Korean Service Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the Navy Unit Commendation, the WWII Victory Medal, the Korean Presidential Unit Citation Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Republic of Korea War Service Medal.

Mr. Speaker, our thoughts and prayers are with Bernidine Brown, Bob's wife of 58 years, as well as sons Michael (Barbara), Stephen (Laurie) and Mark, and grandsons Jacob, Kyle and Travis.

A grateful nation joins them in their mourning and thanks Bob for his courageous service to his country and the cause of freedom.

HONORING JOHN RADER ON THE COMPLETION OF HIS INTERNSHIP

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many contributions John Rader has made while interning in my Washington, DC, office. John has been a wonderful addition to the office and has performed many great services for the constituents of Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

While my staff and I will certainly miss John's help and enthusiastic attitude, John is returning home to Cookeville. This fall, he will begin his junior year at the University of Tennessee, where he is studying political science and history and is president of the Sigma Chi fraternity.

During his internship, John won over the entire staff with his eagerness and easygoing attitude. Not only has he endeared himself to us as he assisted with countless projects, but he also has endeared himself to countless visitors from Middle Tennessee.

John's family is one I know well, and I consider many members of the previous two generations to be good friends. His family has made many great contributions to their community and state, and I am sure John will continue that legacy.

I hope John has enjoyed his internship and his stay in our Nation's Capital as much as my staff and I have enjoyed having him here. I wish him all the best in the future.

HONORING MARJORIE JOY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Marjorie Joy of Oak Lawn, IL, principal of Lee School, who is retiring after a long and distinguished career in education.

Dr. Marjorie Joy is a dynamic influence in the West Lawn community. She has been a leader in the community since she came to Lee School as a seventh grade teacher in 1975. She would later become an eighth

grade teacher, assistant principal, and then principal in 1984. From that time on she concentrated on developing and expanding academic and extra-curricular programs at Lee. Her dedication and enthusiasm have made Lee School a cornerstone of the community.

In Dr. Joy's time as principal, the school and community have undergone many changes. Throughout these years, the philosophy of Lee School has remained constant: that all actions and decisions are made based on the best interests of the children. Dr. Joy's leadership is the catalyst bringing together faculty, staff, parents and community to develop and implement programs and policies designed to meet the diverse needs of the children. In addition, Dr. Joy continually promotes respect, acceptance and appreciation of all persons associated with the Lee School community.

As the population of Lee School became more culturally diverse, Dr. Joy encouraged the faculty to pursue ESL and ELL certification. In order to promote a greater understanding of the different cultures now represented in the Lee School population, several Cultural Diversity Celebrations have been held. Additionally, Lee School is part of the International CPS. CPS Scholars is an advanced curriculum stressing internationalism, integrated curriculum, and world language. It is the vision that students of this program will become fluent in more than one language and skilled in the use of modern technology to become life-long learners.

For her years of dedication and service Dr. Joy has deservedly received numerous awards. These awards include the Distinguished Service Award Aquin Guild, the Whitman Award for Excellence in Educational Management, Principal of Excellence Award, Leadership in Improving Student Outcome, and many others.

Dr. Joy has consistently been driven by the desire to serve her community and improve the lives of the children and families who have attended the schools where she has taught and been an administrator. It is with great appreciation that I thank Dr. Joy for her dedicated work and wish her continued health and good luck as she travels the next path in her career.

TRIBUTE TO SAN MARCOS MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the San Marcos Manufacturers' Association (SMMA) on its' twenty-five years of community service and economic development.

The San Marcos Manufacturers' Association was formed on October 11th, 1981 to provide a forum for local industry to communicate common needs, problems and objectives. The association is made up of local member companies including: Goodrich; Butler; CenturyTel; CFAN; Chatteff Controls; Gulf Business Forms, Inc.; Hadco/Genlyte Thomas; Mensor Corporation; Parkview Metal Products Inc.;

Stellar; T.B. Woods; TXI Hunter Cement; Thermon; WideLite Genlyte Thomas; Heldenfels Enterprises, Inc.; Ember Industries, Inc.; Pavestone Company; Grande Communications; and HEB Distribution Center. Associate members include: San Marcos Chamber of Commerce; Economic Development San Marcos; Texas State Department of Technology; McCoy College of Business; Gary Job Corps Community; Central Texas Medical Center; City Manager; Hays CISD; and San Marcos CISD.

The San Marcos Manufacturers' Association is well-known for its close ties to the community by working closely with several educational institutions such as the Texas State University at San Marcos, San Marcos CISD, Hays ISD, and with local organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, the city of San Antonio, TX Workforce Centers, Economic Development San Marcos. Seven annual scholarships are provided by the San Marcos Manufacturers' Association to graduates of Gary Job Corps, San Marcos High School, and two scholarships for Texas State University.

One excellent example of the great community involvement by the San Marcos Manufacturers' Association is found in its contributions to the United Way of Hays County. Many members of the association serve on boards of various community and civic organizations, and are committed to Economic Development of San Marcos, and work as a team to improve the working conditions, environment and quality of life for new and existing industries.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to honor the leadership of San Marcos Manufacturers' Association in community service and economic development for San Marcos and the surrounding communities

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5631) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year, ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Chairman, I'd like to take a moment to discuss the important work being done at the National Defense University to help ensure that our military continues to harness innovation in Information Technologies (IT) to improve our national defense capabilities. During the past decade, the Department of Defense (DoD) has taken enormous strides in harnessing IT to support major combat operations. We've seen this in the development and fielding of key systems to support precise position location and timing, such as Global Position Systems, as well as precise weapons delivery and communications systems. The effect of these systems on our major combat operations has been profound, increasing the speed, efficiency, and precision of our operations, while minimizing loss of life and resources, as we have seen in coalition

operations in Afghanistan and the invasion of Iraq. These IT-enabled military capabilities are extraordinary, and the U.S. needs to maintain them, explore ways to expand them, and ensure our future ability to benefit from such innovations.

It is important to appreciate that the information technology that underlies these extraordinary capabilities is largely commercially driven. Thus, although the U.S. has so far been able to exploit this capability effectively, it is an advantage that may be easily lost and regained only with great difficulty. If the U.S. is to continue to exploit commercial IT effectively, it must implement processes to identify promising technologies early in their lifecycle to ensure that they include the features required by the DoD. In addition, mechanisms must be instituted that facilitate the introduction of these key technologies into DoD systems.

Over the last several years, Congress has supplied a critical activity at the National Defense University (NDU) to ensure that the DoD retains and enhances the ability to identify and exploit innovative commercial IT. A small group at the Center for Technology and National Security Policy (CTNSP) has performed in excess of forty analyses, workshops, and conferences that have characterized the nature of the problem, identified key shortfalls, and proposed innovative recommendations. At the request of Congress, CTNSP has recently prepared and submitted a report that documents the key findings and recommendations of their work.

It is particularly notable that the efforts of this program have had significant visibility and impact in the DoD. As an example, the IT program at NDU has provided various studies and recommendations to the highest levels of the military, including the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and combatant commanders at the U.S. European Command and Joint Forces Command. These NDU products have had a very positive impact on efforts to enhance the early injection of commercial IT into key DoD policies and procedures.

Currently this NDU program is extending this work into additional critical areas. For example, they are exploring options to enhance the injection of IT into stabilization and reconstruction operations. One member of the NDU IT program has just returned from Afghanistan where he was conducting a detailed study of the impact that communications technology can have on our Nation's success there. The program has also been pursuing ways to adapt technologies currently used by the Chicago Police Department to make them relevant to our counterinsurgency efforts in Iraq. In yet another critical area, the group is in the process of developing a framework to assess the impact of enhancements in cyberspace on America's cyberpower. And finally, the group is reviewing defense spending in the area of computer science to see if it is adequate. These constitute some of the most critical issues that DoD must confront as it proceeds further into the information age.

During the past few years, the Congress and the House Appropriations Committee has

been extremely supportive of this initiative. Although the investment in the effort has been modest, I believe it has had extraordinary payoff for DoD and the Nation at large. If we can retain our strong technological lead, we can save billions in defense dollars later that would otherwise need to be spent on catch-up activities. Therefore, I hope, as we look toward conference on this bill, that the Congress is able to continue to fund the NDU Technology Pilot Program's important work by setting aside \$1,000,000 for the program in account PE 65104D8Z for fiscal year 2007.

TRIBUTE TO RIVERVIEW BIBLE
BAPTIST CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Riverview Bible Baptist Christian School Boys Basketball Team of Forsyth, MO, On March 18, 2006, the team won the National Championship of the National Association of Christian Athletes 2006 Boys Division V, an outstanding accomplishment.

Using the work ethic and good sportsmanship which are our core values in Southern Missouri, the young men of this team cooperated to accomplish an incredible goal. Their perseverance embodies a striking lesson for our Nation as an example of what can be done when all of the members of a team work as one. In an age where sports offers so many examples of selfish play and self-promotion, the Riverview Bible Baptist Christian School Boys Basketball Team shows what is right with sports in America. These young men and their coaches also serve as an example of how teamwork can result in remarkable success. The concept of team is perfectly illustrated by these young men.

I want to applaud the Riverview Bible Baptist Christian School Boys Basketball Team, their coaches and their many supporters on an outstanding season, ending in a great victory. I also want to recognize them for providing a meaningful lesson in the value of teamwork and thank them for representing the Eighth Congressional District so well through their play in the tournament.

FAMILIES USA STUDY EXPOSES
THE WEAKNESSES OF PRIVATE
PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLANS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in order to bring to the attention of my colleagues a study released by Families USA on the new Plan D prescription drug plan, "Big Dollars Little Sense: Rising Medicare Prescription Drug Prices." This report, which was released earlier this month, describes how private prescription drug plans have failed to secure cheaper drug prices for Medicare enrollees and have done nothing to stem the tide of rising drug prices.

By comparing the prices under private Part D plans to the prices available to veterans through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health system, the Families USA report shows that the private insurers are failing to provide needed cost savings to their customers. Between November 2005 and April 2006, private Part D insurers raised the prices on seventeen of the top twenty most frequently prescribed drugs to seniors significantly, while the same drugs under the VA plan experienced little or no increase at all. The median difference in price between the Part D and VA plans was 46 percent. In other words, seniors enrolled in Part D private plan are paying an average 46 percent more for those drugs than they would have if they had been able to receive VA negotiated prices.

As the study details:

For each of the top 20 drugs prescribed to seniors, the lowest price charged by any Part D plan was higher than the lowest price secured by the VA . . . For Zocor (20 mg), a drug used to prevent coronary heart disease, the lowest VA price for a year's treatment was \$127.44, while the lowest Part D plan price was \$1,275.36, a difference of \$1,147.92 or 901 percent. For Zocor (40 mg), the lowest VA price for a year's treatment was \$190.76, while the lowest Part D plan price was \$1,275.36, a difference of \$1,084.60 or 569 percent.

This difference is staggering, and it shows the difference between a publicly-accountable plan that is committed to helping its beneficiaries and private plans that are committed to helping their profit margins, "Big Dollars Little Sense," debunks the myth that the price difference between the VA and private Part D plans has to do with the number of drugs covered. As the study states, the VA plan covers just as many drugs as the plans in Part D but is able to obtain "large discounts simply by using the government's negotiating power." The VA utilizes the significant leverage it has in order to get cheaper drugs for its beneficiaries—an authority Medicare is explicitly prohibited from using under the current Medicare law.

Another discovery that the report made was that the private insurers have done almost nothing to protect seniors from rising drug prices. Over a six-month period between November 2005 to April 2006, drug prices for the top twenty drugs prescribed to seniors rose 3.8 percent. That increase was mirrored by the private drug plans, which raised their prices to their customers 3.7 percent. The plans were unable to moderate increases, unlike the VA, where prices either did not increase or increased at a far lesser rate. The drug prices continue to rise and the private insurers simply pass that increase on to the seniors enrolled in their plan, making little effort to negotiate fairer prices.

The Families USA report not only draws attention to the ineffectiveness of the private insurers but highlights the fact that there is no way to hold them accountable. Part D states that these plans are required to pass the discounts they receive on to Medicare beneficiaries but does not specify the proportion of the discount that must be passed on. The insurers could actually be getting huge discounts from the drug manufacturers and just keeping the difference, but we have no way of knowing. There is no disclosure and no accountability for the private providers who supply an essential benefit to the elderly in this

country. This is a serious problem for seniors. Prices are higher than necessary, can increase over the course of the year, and can vary among plans. It is also a serious problem for taxpayers, who pay 75 percent of the cost of Part D premiums. "Big Dollars Little Sense," reports, too, that the median difference between the highest and lowest prices that Part D plans charged for the same drug was 36 percent. This is not just a question of picking the right plan during the enrollment period—since plans can change prices throughout the year but seniors are locked in, even a smart shopper can end up paying much more for their drugs than enrollees in other plans.

This report concludes that seniors in this country would get a far better deal if they were able to benefit from Medicare price negotiation:

Price data from the Part D plans from November 2005 and April 2006 show that these plans are failing to deliver on the promise that competition would bring prices down. The use of "market power," lauded by Medicare officials and the Administration, has not resulted in drug prices that are comparable to the low prices negotiated by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Not only are Part D plan prices high, but these prices are increasing far more often than they are decreasing, and the plans are not containing drug price inflation. These disturbing price trends do not bode well for either Medicare consumers or taxpayers. The "market power" of the plans has not delivered the low prices promised to Medicare consumers.

The law that established the Medicare prescription drug benefit, in prohibiting Medicare from using the negotiating clout of 43 million seniors and others in Medicare to obtain low drug prices, has given seniors and taxpayers a benefit that costs more than it should. When negotiations are divided among a multitude of plans, none seems to do as well as a single negotiator might. When it comes to reducing and containing drug prices, the Medicare drug program is an opportunity that has been badly squandered.

A Medicare-administered plan with Medicare price negotiation would lower prices since the drug companies would be more likely to provide a good deal to an entity representing 43 million of their best customers. That is why I urge my colleagues to read this important report and to support H.R. 752, the Medicare Prescription Drug Savings and Choice Act, which would give seniors and persons with disabilities the ability to enroll in a Medicare-operated plan with lower prices.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE KELO
V. CITY OF NEW LONDON DECISION

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow marks the one year anniversary of one of the worst Supreme Court decisions in recent memory, Kelo v. City of New London. One year ago, the Court struck a blow against property owners everywhere and delivered the government's long-standing assault on property rights on farms and ranches in rural America right to the doorsteps of American suburbs.

The Kelo decision expanded the traditional understanding of "public benefit"—roads,

bridges, schools, etc.—to include more abstract benefits like tax revenue. If a local bureaucrat decides that your house, local church, or business would be more productive if it were torn down to make room for a shopping center, the Court now says this is ok.

The 5th Amendment guarantees that private property shall not be taken by the government for public use without just compensation. These safeguards have been under assault for decades and until this decision, the typical victims were family farmers and ranchers in the West. Now we know no one is safe. In the past year, more than 5,700 properties have been threatened or taken by eminent domain, not to build roads or schools, but for private development. This is unconscionable and goes against everything our Nation stands for.

This terrible ruling did have a silver lining—it brought great public attention and outrage to an issue some of us in Congress have been fighting for our entire careers. In the wake of the decision, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4128, the Private Property Rights Protection Act. Using Congress' power of the purse, we made a strong, bipartisan statement to State and local governments that the abuse of eminent domain for private purposes would not be tolerated. Any use of eminent domain for private benefit would result in a two-year loss of federal economic development funds. Similar restrictions were placed on funds in the FY06 Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

The fight has also been taken up at the local level, with 25 states passing legislation aimed at curbing eminent domain abuse. This was a heartening response, but there is much more to be done. The Senate must act on similar legislation. And, we can further what we have started by introducing more legislation to protect private property. While the initial public outcry over this decision has died down, these abuses are still occurring every day, and we must keep up the fight.

Mr. Speaker, property rights are the heart of individual freedom and the foundation for all other civil rights guaranteed to Americans by the Constitution. Without the freedom to acquire, possess and defend property, all other guaranteed rights are merely words on a page. As we look back on one year of life under Kelo, we must never forget the simple truth. We must be steadfast in our defense of the rights of property owners.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5631) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chairman, on Tuesday night, the House passed H.R. 5631, the Defense Appropriations Act for FY2007. I commend Chairman YOUNG and Ranking Member MURTHA for crafting an important piece of leg-

islation that will provide our men and women in uniform with the resources they need to continue their excellent record of service to the Nation. I was proud to vote for that measure, which passed by an overwhelming vote of 407–19.

However, I am disappointed that the House did not pass a very important amendment offered by Congressman SCHIFF to block funding for any surveillance program that does not comply with the safeguards in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. I have been deeply disturbed by the President's decision to expand domestic surveillance of U.S. citizens beyond what is permitted under existing law. As a member of the House Armed Services and Homeland Security Committees, I am fully aware of the dangers posed by those who wish to harm Americans, and I have strongly supported efforts to make our Nation safer. However, President Bush has not yet explained to my satisfaction why powers available to him under existing law cannot meet the needs of the war on terrorism. For example, the Foreign Intelligence Service Act (FISA) already permits the warrantless surveillance of communications by U.S. citizens under certain limited circumstances. Nevertheless, the Bush Administration did not use those emergency powers and instead chose to expand the authority of the National Security Agency (NSA).

As I have said before, if President Bush believes that FISA needs to be altered or updated to address new threats, he should make his case to Congress and propose legislative changes. The President's decision to expand domestic surveillance while notifying only a handful of legislators does not constitute Congressional consent and is a danger to our established Constitutional system of checks and balances. While Americans may disagree about the merits of broadening the government's authority to combat terrorism, it is in all of our interests that such important decisions should be made publicly, as they affect the very values of freedom and liberty on which the Nation was founded.

Opponents of the Schiff amendment argued that we shouldn't be considering such a significant change in a spending bill. Under normal circumstances, I would agree with that assessment. However, because the House has neglected to consider any legislation to address the serious issue of domestic surveillance, we are left with no other choice.

We cannot continue to shirk our Constitutional responsibility to conduct oversight of the executive branch and its activities. We must hold hearings and consider legislation to ensure that our efforts to protect our nation are done consistent with the civil liberties that we hold dear and comply with the Constitution—the supreme law of the land.

LOWER THE THRESHOLD FOR
BILINGUAL ELECTION ASSISTANCE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the House on the Voting Rights Reauthorization and Amendment Act of 2006, proposed by the esteemed gentleman from

Wisconsin. The bill calls for renewal of certain expiring provisions from the Voting Rights Act of 1965, including Section 203—the bilingual election assistance.

As a representative of one of the many multi-ethnic districts in New York, I fully realize the necessity of providing bilingual assistance to increase voting among language minorities and allow these Americans the chance to participate in the democratic process. According to the existing provisions of Section 203, the bilingual assistance is made available when the population of a language minority group in an electoral district is 10,000. This has facilitated voting for over 200,000 Asian Americans nationwide, and caused a 50 percent increase in the Hispanic electorate in the first decade of the adoption of this provision.

Mr. Speaker, the House has agreed to a bipartisan support of this vitally important reauthorization bill to ensure a clean passage. Had the opportunity allowed, I would have liked to propose an amendment to Section 203, lowering the current threshold to 7,500. The effect of lowering the numerical trigger to 7,500 would remove language barriers for at least 77,955 limited English proficient Asian American citizens to vote, including a significant increase in the electorate of New York City. In the last election, New York only offered bilingual election assistance in Spanish, Chinese and Korean. Keeping in mind the diversity and multiethnic communities in New York, it is vital that we ensure all our constituents have an easier access to the electoral process. I have been a firm supporter of integration and accepting immigrants into American society. What better way to make them comfortable in their American identity and assist in seamless assimilation?

On another note, under the current law, U.S. Census Bureau determines the Section 203 coverage every 10 years. Considering the rapid growth of immigrant communities, particularly in cities like New York, San Francisco (CA), Los Angeles (CA), Philadelphia (PA), Essex County (NJ), Cook County (IL), King County (WA), I believe we should make census determinations every 5 years to decide Section 203 coverage.

According to the 1990 census, the Korean American population in New York was short of 250 persons to gain coverage under Section 203. Although the community reached the numeric trigger by early 1990s, it did not gain coverage until after the 2000 census. More recently, the Vietnamese community in San Diego fell 85 persons short of the numeric trigger following the 2000 census. Surely, by now the community has already surpassed the trigger but will not receive bilingual election assistance until after the 2010 census report is completed.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 with all its subsequent amendment has been immensely successful in expanding access and assistance to racial and ethnic minorities during election. It remains one of the most important civil rights laws in our country. Mr. Speaker, while coming to debate the reauthorization of the expiring provisions in this 109th Congress, we must keep in mind the limitations of the Voting Rights Reauthorization and Amendment Act of 2006, and how to make it more effective and allow our citizens access to one of their fundamental rights as guaranteed by the ideals of our nation.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I must commend the bipartisan effort to renew this legislation and

congrats my colleagues on their success in allowing for the expansion of the provision of until 2032, for 25 years—the longest extension in its history. I must also praise the various civil rights groups who have been extensively campaigning for the renewal of the Voting Rights Reauthorization and Amendment Act.

RECOGNIZING ST. JOHN INSTITUTIONAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF MIAMI ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the St. John Institutional Missionary Baptist Church on the occasion of its 100th anniversary on Sunday, June 25, 2006.

Its pastor, the Reverend Henry Nevin, will lead his congregation to celebrate this milestone in the history of this beloved church that has become the Citadel of Faith in Miami's Overtown community. Indeed, St. John's longevity of service is directly related to its essential role in the community and its service to its members and to all those who now seek comfort and solace in its sanctuary.

On June 17, 1906, a group of dedicated Christians decided to build the Second Baptist Church, which came to be known as the New St. John Institutional Missionary Baptist Church. In 1939, the late Sis. Cora Lee Thomas Brown, the only surviving founder at that time, and Sis. Victoria Darry, the first secretary of the Sunday School, provided information to validate the revered history of the Church. It was legally known as the St. John Baptist Church of Miami, Florida, and the Reverend John Bynom was called as the first pastor, while brothers Grant Faulkner and Willis Williams were consecrated as the first Deacons.

In the succeeding years, the membership grew. Their second pastor, the Rev. N.B. Williams, known as a Master Builder, called upon his congregation to consider plans for a permanent location. In January, 1912, the Rev. Jarius Wilkerson Drake arrived in Miami from Jacksonville and assumed the leadership of the church. This pastor succeeded in expanding the congregation to 1,000-members in 1939. The current location of this church was purchased with a \$10,000 deposit at a local bank, and thereafter a building was erected to house the burgeoning membership in the year 1940.

Rev. Drake was God's shepherd par excellence, as he guided and served the congregation well until his death in February, 1951. This Man of God was revered as a fearless leader and community builder whose life was filled with Christian charity on one hand and civic pride on the other. He was soon followed by Rev. Thedford Johnson during the latter part of 1951, who proficiently guided the church into a veritable sanctuary of worship and learning, as he created a good mixture of religion and civic responsibility that would strengthen church members not only to become spiritual and moral leaders, but also as responsible and conscientious guardians of good government and civic pride.

On April 17, 1982, the Rev. Charles Uptgrew succeeded Rev. Johnson, and on

March 28, 1985 the Rev. Henry Nevin was appointed pastor and continues in this capacity until the present. He has emphasized Bible Study classes for the members of his congregation, and this focus gave way to the continuing enhancement of church membership amidst constant worship and praise to Almighty God. Through the genuine efforts of the current pastor, the faith-action service that now defines the St. John Institutional Missionary Baptist Church has truly persevered in showing its congregation the way and expounding for its membership the Truth that emanates from the study of Holy Scriptures.

Rev. Nevin's inspiring leadership is genuinely admirable. As a servant of God and as a deeply spiritual leader immersed in Scriptural commitment, he has earned the deepest respect and superlative commendation of our community. We therefore congratulate the members on their Centennial Celebration of their venerable Church and wish them continued success as they begin a new century of service.

SUPPORT FOR H. RES. 323, H. RES. 863 AND H.R. 1245

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, earlier today the House overwhelmingly approved House Resolution 323—a resolution I am proud to be a co-sponsor of—offered by my good friend Congresswoman DEBORAH PRYCE of Ohio. H. Res. 323 is a straightforward bill which expresses the House of Representatives' support for increasing childhood cancer awareness, treatment, and research.

The word "cancer" evokes powerful emotions. Along with many of my colleagues, I know first-hand how devastating cancer can be to the individual who has been diagnosed, as well as their family. It is thankfully true that more and more people are continuing to lead full and productive lives both during and after cancer, but the sad fact is that lives once touched by this insidious disease are never truly the same again. The tragedy perhaps becomes even worse when cancer invades the life of a child.

I pray for the day when a cure is found and cancer is finally and forever eradicated from the face of the earth. In the meantime, as my colleague Mr. DEAL of Georgia said in his remarks, through research, public awareness, education and wise public policy, we can make powerful strides towards winning the fight against childhood cancer. I hope that the resolution we passed today will help call attention to the problem of childhood cancer and the importance of bringing improved diagnosis and treatment techniques to bear in this life and death struggle. I commend Ms. PRYCE for her leadership on this issue, and I applaud all of my colleagues for their support of this critically important resolution.

But I believe we can do more and that we should do more to address the scourge of cancer before this Congress adjourns for the year.

For example, prostate cancer is the second most common cancer in the United States. It is also the second leading cause of cancer re-

lated deaths in men, claiming around 27,000 lives in 2005 alone according to the National Prostate Cancer Coalition. According to the National Cancer Institute, in 2005 our Nation likely saw more than 230,000 new cases of prostate cancer, meaning that some 2 million American men are living with prostate cancer at this time. Statistics also tell us that prostate cancer will strike one in six men. Yet tragically, the state of prostate cancer care is decades behind what it should be.

The current screening methods of digital rectal exams and PSA blood tests are good tools—but they are not enough. A study funded by the National Cancer Institute showed that PSA blood screening tests, the most common form of testing for prostate cancer, result in both false positives and false negatives. In fact, as evidence suggests that as high as 15 percent of men with normal PSA levels actually have prostate cancer. We need to start getting serious about our diagnostic and treatment options. I firmly believe that men need to continue to get tested, even with the chance that the results may be misleading at times but I also firmly believe that we should not be satisfied with the current state of care. Our fathers, our brothers and our sons deserve more accurate technology, more reliable weapons in the fight against prostate cancer—tools like digital imaging.

That is why I am proud to co-sponsor—along with my colleague from Maryland, Mr. CUMMINGS—House Resolution 863, to bring attention to the urgent need to develop better tools in the fight against prostate cancer. Our Resolution simply expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress and the Executive Branch should recognize the successful use of advanced imaging technologies in the fight against breast cancer and provide additional support for the research and development of technologies for prostate cancer detection and treatment comparable to state-of-the-art mammograms.

Likewise, I am a proud co-sponsor and passionate supporter of Johanna's Law: "The Gynecologic Cancer Education Act (H.R. 1245)". Ovarian Cancer is the deadliest of the gynecologic cancers, and it is the fourth leading cause of cancer death among women living in the United States. In 2004, it is estimated that over 25,000 women were diagnosed with ovarian cancer, and an estimated 16,000 or so American women died as a result of this devastating disease. This is a national tragedy, and what makes it even more tragic is the fact that many of those deaths could have been prevented if more women and their doctors knew the risk factors and recognized the early warning signs of ovarian cancer and other gynecological cancers.

When it is detected early, ovarian cancer is very treatable, unfortunately, ovarian cancer is one of the most difficult cancers to diagnose because symptoms are sometimes subtle and may be easily confused with those of other diseases. As a result, only 29 percent of ovarian cancer cases in the U.S. are diagnosed in the early stages. When the disease is detected before it has spread beyond the ovaries, more than 95 percent of women will survive longer than five years. But, in cases where the disease is not detected until it reaches the advanced stage, the five-year survival rate plummets to a devastating 25 percent.

As there is still no reliable and easy-to-administer screening test for ovarian cancer, like

the Pap smear for cervical cancer or the mammogram for breast cancer, early recognition of symptoms is clearly the best way to save a woman's life. Without increased education about ovarian cancer and recognition of women who are at higher risk for developing ovarian cancer, many women and their doctors will continue to ignore or misinterpret the symptoms of the disease. Any woman is at risk for developing a gynecologic cancer. As we owe it to our fathers, brothers and sons, we also owe it to our mothers, our wives and our daughters to do all we can to both raise awareness of these terrible diseases, and to fund the research necessary to stamp out this kind of cancer once and for all.

Johanna's Law will be a giant step forward because for the first time ever, the Secretary of Health and Human Services will have explicit authority to carry out a national campaign to increase the awareness and knowledge of women with respect to gynecologic cancers, which shall include: (1) maintaining a supply of written materials to provide information to the public on gynecologic cancers; and (2) developing and placing public service announcements to encourage women to discuss their risks of gynecologic cancers with their physicians. The bill also requires the Secretary to award grants to nonprofit private entities to test different outreach and education strategies for increasing such awareness among women and health professionals.

I am confident that with a national Public Service Announcements campaign describing risk factors and symptoms and encouraging women to talk to their doctors about their risk of gynecological cancers, that we can and will increase early detection of these deadly cancers, and, when possible, help women reduce their risk of ever contracting them in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, both House Resolution 863 and H.R. 1245 are currently pending before the Energy and Commerce Committee. In closing, I would respectfully ask all of my colleagues on the Committee to read these two bills because I am confident that after you read them you will come to the same conclusion that I have; namely these are good bills, good public policy and we need to bring these bills before the full House for a vote now. This is literally a matter of life and death.

HEALTH CENTERS RENEWAL ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5573, the Health Centers Renewal Act. By reauthorizing the health center program, we will ensure that community health centers are able to continue the delivery of cost-effective, high quality care to medically underserved communities.

It is important to note that community health centers are the primary providers of health care to America's poor and medically underserved. For over 30 years, they have been responsible for bringing doctors, basic health services and facilities into the Nation's neediest and most isolated communities. Commu-

nity health centers provide quality primary health care in over 20 locations to one out of ten Rhode Islanders throughout my home state.

With increasing numbers of Americans losing access to employer-sponsored health coverage as a result of recent increases in unemployment and the rising cost of health care, it is more important than ever to support people and programs devoted to filling in the gaps. Without the services of community health centers, we would see even more over-crowding in our emergency rooms and unnecessary declines in quality of life for those who lack access to other forms of preventative care. Health centers do a tremendous job of managing the problems that exist in our broken health care system. But they cannot continue to do it alone. As we join together today to reauthorize the health center programs, I hope my colleagues will take this opportunity to reflect on the health care crisis that exists in America.

I have introduced legislation that proposes a universal system of health care, offering access to coverage for all Americans. Under my proposal, all Americans would have the opportunity to participate in a program modeled after the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP), which has provided Members of Congress, their staffs and other federal employees with quality health care over many years. With a commitment and partnership from businesses, consumers and the government, we could offer this kind of coverage and oversight to all Americans. Recent developments in Massachusetts and other parts of the country have shown us that the business community and Americans are ready to participate in such a system—it is now up to us, as Congress, to take on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, once again I call on Congress to join me in the effort to develop a universal health insurance program that will include all Americans. In the meantime, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of programs that make health care available to at-risk individuals in underserved communities and vote in favor of H.R. 5573.

IN TRIBUTE AND APPRECIATION OF THE LIFE AND WORK OF EVELYN DUBROW, A DESERVING RECIPIENT OF THE PRESI- DENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the legacy of the recently passed Evelyn Dubrow. In her many years here on Capitol Hill as a delightful yet effective advocate of worker's rights, Ms. Dubrow helped influence progress in civil rights issues across the board. She was best known as the representative for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU), however, her work sought to expand the rights of workers for a higher minimum wage, fair trade laws, and family and medical leave. Her forthright style and passionate advocacy won her many friends and admirers in the Congress.

For many members of Congress, she was the ideal example of a successful lobbyist, and

her wealth of knowledge benefited all who had the pleasure of crossing Ms. Dubrow's path. Not only was she a model lobbyist, but she was also an exemplary human being who did not take even a penny for granted, spending in a year what some say others spend in telephone bills alone. Hers was a personal style and her winning personality made her welcome in the offices she visited.

Ms. Dubrow's outstanding work was recognized by President Clinton, who in 1999 awarded her with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. She was also recognized by the Washington Business Review in 1982 as Washington's top 10 lobbyists.

Known affectionately as "Evy," she began her efforts on Capitol Hill as one of very few other female lobbyists in the 50's. In those days, the minimum wage was only \$1 an hour, talk of equal pay for men and women was rare, and laws allowed discrimination in housing, hiring, and health care. It was in these areas that "Evy" fought hard to produce improvements for all Americans.

Her obituary in the June 22nd edition of The Washington Post honored the life and works of Ms. Evelyn Dubrow. I would like to enter the Obituary into the RECORD and join the Washington Post as well as my colleagues on the Hill for reflection and appreciation of this great woman's contributions to our country.

[From the Washington Post, June 22, 2006]

LOBBYIST EVELYN DUBROW, 95; WORKED FOR
ILGWU, CIVIL RIGHTS

(By Patricia Sullivan)

Evelyn "Evy" Dubrow, 95, an indefatigable lobbyist for garment workers for almost 50 years and the only person on Capitol Hill allowed to share the congressional doorkeepers' chairs outside the House chambers, died June 20 of a heart attack at George Washington University Hospital.

Miss Dubrow, the 4-foot, 11-inch, throaty-voiced representative for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and its successor union from 1956 until about two years ago, wore out countless pairs of size 4 shoes in the marble halls of the Capitol, where she advocated for a higher minimum wage, fair trade laws, family and medical leave policies and civil rights.

"Everyone knows Evy," said one newspaper profile of the friendly activist. Another said, "She stands eye-to-eye with Labor Secretary Robert B. Reich and goes toe-to-toe with the big boys, whether the late [House Speaker Thomas P.] O'Neill . . . or Sen. Alan K. Simpson, the 6-foot-7 Republican from Wyoming."

"Evelyn Dubrow is the union label," Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.) once said.

"By the accounts of her best friends in Congress, most of them Northern liberals, she is the model of the effective lobbyist—persistent but not pushy, knowledgeable and persuasive but not dogmatic," New York Times reporter David E. Rosenbaum wrote in 1970.

Her longevity gave her knowledge of the institution and an understanding of when to compromise. "There's no point trying to organize an industry if there are no jobs," she said in 1985, explaining why labor supported a protectionist textile bill. It also gave her a seat just outside the House chambers; as speaker, O'Neill ordered the doorkeepers to share their seat with the representative of seamstresses, hemmers and buttonhole girls. The apparently unprecedented courtesy lasted until Newt Gingrich won the speakership and barred lobbyists from the second floor during votes.

Miss Dubrow worked 15-hour days and outlasted almost everyone. For years, she kept

her age a secret even while spreading her secrets to successful lobbying: Never beg for votes, don't assume you know everything and don't threaten anyone.

"She carries no flip phone, beeper or Powerbook," the Baltimore Sun said in 1995. "[Miss] Dubrow keeps her daily schedule on a card in her appointment calendar in her purse. And her yearly expenses are less than what some spend in telephone bills alone."

President Bill Clinton awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1999, calling her "a tiny woman, larger than life" who was "renowned for her grace, candor, and integrity, [who] has earned the respect of opponents and allies alike."

Unapologetically liberal, she had friends among both Republicans and Democrats, telling Washingtonian magazine in 1997: "In Washington you should never write off anybody. You'll be surprised where tomorrow's allies come from."

She came from Paterson, N.J., the daughter of immigrants from Belarus who found work in factories of New York and New Jersey. She got her start in labor activism handing out fliers about the Spanish Civil War in New York's Union Square. She graduated from New York University's School of Journalism and joined her first union, the Newspaper Guild, while working at the Paterson Morning Call newspaper.

She soon moved into full-time union work, as a secretary in the Textile Workers Union and as an assistant to the president of the New Jersey Congress of Industrial Organizations. She was one of the organizers of Americans for Democratic Action in 1947 and worked for the ADA until 1956. Legendary labor leader David Dubinsky hired her as lobbyist for the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and sent her to Washington.

Miss Dubrow was in her mid-forties when she became one of a mere handful of female lobbyists in Washington. When she started, the federal minimum wage was \$1 an hour, equal pay was rarely mentioned and the law allowed discrimination in housing, hiring and health care. She fought long and hard for improvements in all those areas, and later, against the North American Free Trade Agreement, which eroded the jobs of American union members who made clothes.

"When I started this job, we were worried about sweatshops," she told The Washington Post in 1997. "Today we're still worried about sweatshops."

She was named vice president of the ILGWU in 1977, and when the union merged with another to form UNITE! (United Needleworkers, Industrial and Textile Employees), she became vice president and legislative director, then special assistant to its president. She was a founder of the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

Miss Dubrow became well recognized off Capitol Hill in time. In 1971, Ladies' Home Journal named her one of the 75 most important women in America, and in 1982, the old Washington Business Review called her one of the city's top 10 lobbyists.

Never married, with no immediate family survivors, she reveled in her many nieces and nephews. She also enjoyed poker, gin rummy and reading the classics.

In the 1970s, she endured four years of Metro rail construction in front of her D Street SE home. Her only complaint about it, she told The Post in 1977: "Their construction in front of my house caused my shoes to get muddy. But for two weeks, every day, one of the workers would go have them polished and bring them back to me."

FREEDOM FOR REINALDO MIGUEL LABRADA PEÑA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Reinaldo Miguel Labrada Peña, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Labrada Peña is a peaceful pro-democracy activist and a member of the Christian Liberation Movement. His life is dedicated to the proposition that the men and women of Cuba must be free: free to learn, free to worship, free to enjoy their inalienable human rights. Unfortunately, the nightmare that is the Castro regime continues to violently oppress the people of Cuba, including those that bravely make known the atrocities committed against the Cuban people for the world to see.

In March 2003, as part of the regime's heinous crackdown on peaceful, pro-democracy activists, Mr. Labrada Peña was arrested. In a sham trial, he was sentenced to 6 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Mr. Labrada Peña is languishing in an inhuman, grotesque gulag simply because of his religious convictions and his desire to live in liberty. According to Amnesty International, he has been denied access to religious services and has inadequate ventilation in his squalid cell.

Mr. Labrada Peña is representative of the fighting spirit of the Cuban people: of their rejection of the brutality, discrimination, depravity, and oppression of the totalitarian tyranny. Thousands languish in the gulag because, like Mr. Labrada Peña, they refuse to accept the tyrannical dictatorship in Cuba today. It is reprehensible that, at the dawn of the 21st Century, men and women like Mr. Labrada Peña are still locked in dank dungeons because of the tenets of their faith.

Mr. Speaker, it is unconscionable that peaceful Cubans of all genders, creeds and colors are locked in Castro's barbarous gulag because they believe in a free Cuba. While the entire world sits by and ignores the suffering of the Cuban people, brave men and women like Mr. Labrada Peña represent the best of mankind. My Colleagues, we must demand freedom and human rights for all people, including those who live under the darkness of totalitarian regimes. We must demand immediate and unconditional freedom for Reinaldo Miguel Labrada Peña and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

IN MEMORY OF MR. RICK MERRITT

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and memory of Mr. Rick Merritt of Lighthouse Point, FL. Rick passed away on Father's Day, June 18, 2006, after a courageous battle against cancer. I had the privilege of meeting Rick in 2002, as he was extremely helpful to me during my time in the House of Representatives. Rick was a tal-

ented ally who used his ability and creativity to develop his own computer software programs. He was a patient man who spent many hours educating folks on technology, and how they could use computer software programs for their benefit. Rick's personable demeanor made him approachable and always accessible. He truly used his talents to teach others and better serve his fellow man.

Rick was also a strong advocate in protecting consumers and businesses in their dealing with the U.S. Postal Service. To this end, Rick was Executive Director of Postal Watch, a national watchdog group committed to advocating a consumer approach to postal reform. He was also active in the Wednesday Meeting that brought together folks from around the country to Washington, DC to discuss issues facing our Nation.

Roughly a year ago, Rick was diagnosed with cancer. Instead of withdrawing from his fight against cancer, Rick faced the challenge with courage and a spirit of determination. Although Rick lost his battle with cancer, his spirit lives on among his family and friends. My thoughts and prayers are with Rick's wife, Debbie, his daughter, Tobi; his mother, Lois; brothers, Scott, Mark and Michael; and the rest of the Merritt family during this time.

Rick loved his country, stood by his principles, was never afraid to take a risk and could always be counted upon to be there during the toughest times for his family, his colleagues and his friends.

Mr. Speaker, I was privileged to call Rick Merritt my friend.

HONORING DR. JARRELL JACKMAN FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Dr. Jarrell Jackman for his dynamic and committed leadership of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation.

Dr. Jarrell Jackman has been a leader of the Trust for Historic Preservation for 25 years, serving first as Historic Projects Administrator and, since 1987, as Executive Director. In a unique partnership with the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, the Trust operates El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park that attracts 50,000 visitors annually from Santa Barbara and from around the world.

Under Dr. Jackman's leadership, the Trust bought and maintains for future generations the Mission Santa Inez Mills, significant remains of mission-period grist and fulling mills. In addition to acquiring and maintaining historic sites, the Trust preserves the diverse cultural heritage of Santa Barbara through its research, interpretation, educational programs, archeological work, historic restoration and preservation efforts. They work cooperatively with local jurisdictions and with dozens of state agencies, museums, private foundations, schools, and businesses to ensure that the rich cultural history of the central coast not only lives on for future generations but is accessible today.

The Trust has completed major construction projects for El Presidio de Santa Barbara

State Historic Park: the Chapel, the Comandancia, the Northeast Corner and (the soon to be completed) Northwest Corner, making El Presidio the most fully restored Presidio in the United States. The restored Casa de la Guerra and El Presidio have become significant museums, hosting many lectures, performances, visiting exhibits and celebrations, due in large part to the dedication and expertise of Dr. Jackman.

Dr. Jackman served honorably on the Santa Barbara County Historic Landmarks Advisory Commission and has consistently been a forceful voice for the preservation of county historic structures. Among his many honors are the prestigious Norman Neuerburg Award from the California Mission Studies Association in February 2001 and the 2006 California League of Park Associations' Dewitt Award for outstanding partnership.

I have seen firsthand many of the great programs and preservation efforts of the Trust. We, as a community, benefit greatly from the skill and leadership of Dr. Jackman. I am pleased to commend Dr. Jarrell Jackman for his dedicated service to the Trust for Historic Preservation and to the preservation of many of the Central Coast's treasures. I look forward to the Trust's continued success. Congratulations on 25 great years!

IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES (CHARLIE) J. BECK FOR HIS 36 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF FAIRFIELD

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the exceptional value of Charlie Beck's 36 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Fairfield.

After graduating from Sacramento State College in 1970, Charlie was hired by the City of Fairfield as a Junior Civil Engineer and in 1972 became the City's first Traffic Engineer.

Two years later Charlie moved to the Corporation Yard to become the Manager of Street, Drainage, Signs, Traffic Signals, and Equipment Maintenance Division.

In 1980 Mr. Beck became the City's first Assistant Public Works Director and in 1985 added City Engineer to his title. Under this position Charlie was responsible for the management of Development Review, Engineering Design, Capital Improvement Projects, Traffic Engineering, and Public Works and Building Inspections.

In 2000, Mr. Beck was appointed to the position of Director of Public Works for the City of Fairfield. Under his supervision, he managed 190 Public Works employees, including Engineers, Technicians, Inspectors, Maintenance Personnel, and Support Staff.

Mr. Beck's attitude of "doing it right the first time" and "build it to stand the test of time" has served the City of Fairfield well in the past and will serve the City well into the future. A long-term retired employee said it best when he referred to Charlie's knowledge of masonry which he learned from his father. He said that with every action Charlie took since he started employment with the city, he placed each brick and made sure it was level before mov-

ing on to the next one. With that approach, he built a great foundation for the city.

He is recognized by his co-workers as a model of integrity and a great mentor. Mr. Beck's wisdom and office presence will truly be missed.

Charlie Beck has spent his entire career working for his community and for the citizens of Fairfield. As he enters retirement I would like to wish Charlie, his wife Joyce, and his family many wonderful years of happiness, prosperity, and good health.

DECLARING THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we face a critical challenge in Iraq with no certain outcome. While those in the White House and the Majority may want to use this debate as an opportunity to gloss over the situation and cast aspersions at their opponents, now is the time for a serious and sustained conversation within our government and among the American people about how we can end the occupation and do so in a way that maximizes Iraq's chances to govern and defend itself.

A brief survey of the status of our operations confirms the gravity of our position.

First, consider our strategic interests in the conflict. The Administration's entire case for invading Iraq has proven false. The President's claims about nuclear weapons, chemical weapons, biological weapons, links to terrorism, an imminent threat—they were all wrong. CIA weapons inspectors followed every plausible lead to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, and came up empty. We might have known the outcome of this search had we showed more patience with international weapons inspections before the President launched the invasion. We have also confirmed what many of us suspected at the time, that the alleged links between Saddam Hussein and Al Qaeda terrorists were fabricated and false. In fact, with the CIA now calling Iraq the world's number one terrorist training ground, we have ironically created a problem that did not exist when we set out to solve it. And we diverted attention and assets from Afghanistan, which truly was ground zero in the anti-terrorist offensive.

Indeed, we have engaged in a war of choice that has actually made our nation less safe. Congress has poured over \$400 billion into Iraq that was entrusted to us by American taxpayers, dealing a serious blow both to our economy and to the many critical domestic programs that have been cut, essentially to help pay for the war effort. We have overextended our military, damaging recruiting and retention efforts and leaving our military units undermanned, underequipped, and exhausted from repeated deployments. We have created a terrorist breeding ground in Iraq that may threaten our security for years to come. And, by fueling tensions both between sectarian groups inside Iraq and between Iraq and its neighbors, like Iran, Syria, and Turkey, this war has stirred up a dangerous hornet's nest

that could lead to significant regional conflict. In short, our national security is at far greater risk now than three years ago when the war began.

Despite these shortcomings, the new "unity government" led by Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki represents some progress in our political efforts, produced by the successful conduct of a handful of elections, a constitutional referendum, and sustained negotiations between major Shi'a, Sunni, and Kurdish political parties. These successes are the most positive story we have to tell in Iraq. If Iraq's leaders choose to work together to unite their nation and prevent sectarian agendas from tearing the Iraqi people apart, there will be hope for achieving stability and democracy in that country.

Unfortunately, Iraqi leaders have not yet made clear what their choice will be. They have not yet shown the unity of purpose and political courage that will be necessary to hold their country together after the U.S. departs. They have not yet proven that they can set aside their sectarian agendas. Most importantly, they still must prove that they have the power to reach out beyond the green zone to influence Iraqi citizens and lead them toward unity and peace. Here, especially, the jury is still out on the extent of progress.

U.S. taxpayers have spent \$20 billion on reconstruction projects, but have only limited concrete results to show for their investment. Tens of millions of dollars were irresponsibly squandered through poor management and questionable contracts with companies like Halliburton. The Coalition Provisional Authority was unable to account for the use of nearly \$9 billion in U.S. and Iraqi reconstruction funds. According to conservative estimates, up to a quarter of reconstruction funding has been diverted away from reconstruction activities to pay for associated security costs. Furthermore, much of the reconstruction work that has been carried out has been ineffective. In an October 2005 audit of over \$250 million in water and sanitation projects, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that over one-quarter of the projects were "inoperable or were operating at lower than normal capacity."

The results of this mismanagement are striking. Over half of all Iraqi households still lack access to clean water, and 85 percent lack reliable electricity. Oil production remains well below pre-invasion levels. A quarter of Iraqi children suffer from chronic malnutrition. More than a quarter of Iraqis—possibly up to forty percent—remain unemployed. By any standard, the reconstruction effort has fallen disastrously short.

Unfortunately, the Bush Administration appears to have learned the wrong lesson from these reconstruction failures, proposing no additional funding to rebuild Iraq and support the civilian population. Without additional funding, our reconstruction efforts will come to an end even though we remain far short of our goals. The Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction (SIGIR) has reported that more than two-thirds of planned health care centers, over 60 percent of planned water sector projects, and a third of planned electricity projects will not be completed due to lack of funds. The answer is not to give up on Iraq reconstruction altogether, but to find effective ways to make reconstruction projects work.

On the security front, some limited progress has been made. According to the State Department's most recent weekly update, approximately 265,000 Iraqi troops have enlisted to secure and defend their homeland. In addition, American forces recently scored an important victory by killing the number one terrorist leader in Iraq, Abu Musab al Zarqawi.

As Iraqi troops have stood up, however, American troops have not been able to stand down, despite promises to the contrary. The sheer number of Iraqi enlistees has neither translated into capability for independent operations nor improved the security situation. In fact, Iraq is more violent, more dangerous, and more divided than at any time since the war began.

The security situation is increasingly complex. Instead of fighting one battle, we are fighting at least three: against largely Sunni insurgents who are fighting to recapture the power they enjoyed under Saddam Hussein; against growing sectarian violence; and against terrorists, some foreign-born, united under a banner of Islamic fundamentalism. Above all, we are fighting to prevent full-fledged civil war, and the outcome remains uncertain. The death of Zarqawi will help in our battle against the fundamentalist terrorists, but it will not markedly change the larger challenge we face in pacifying Sunni and Shiite extremists.

This picture is not pretty, and it is not a picture the Administration has been willing to discuss frankly. But it is the reality. Crafting an effective Iraq strategy means facing this reality head-on. Unfortunately, the Administration has adamantly refused to do so. In fact, Middle East expert Anthony Cordesman of the Center for Strategic and International Studies called the Administration's most recent report on progress in Iraq, "both dishonest and incompetent." Cordesman noted, "the American people and the US Congress need an honest portrayal of what is happening, not lies by omission and 'spin.'"

Most Americans now understand that this Administration has relied on spin and misinformation to carry out its Iraq policy from Day One. It led our nation into war based on false claims and insinuations. It misled the American public about the likely costs and duration of our operations. It has attempted to discredit critics of its post-invasion operation, including former military officials. And it has consistently refused to level with the American people about the significant obstacles we continue to face.

The real question before us—the question most Americans are asking—is how long must our troops stay in Iraq?

The President has told us that, as Iraqi troops stand up, American troops can stand down. But that formula is backwards. Iraqi troops will not truly stand up until American troops begin standing down. Iraqi leaders will not make the necessary compromises and take charge of their own destiny until they know their dependence on American forces is coming to an end. As we stand down, they will have no choice but to stand up.

While our military's valiant efforts have clearly facilitated important steps forward, including the formation of a democratically elected government, the troubling reality is that our continued presence makes success more elusive. It serves as a disincentive for Iraqi military and political leaders to take courageous

risks to stabilize their country and assume responsibility for their government. Equally importantly, our presence is a magnet for international terrorists and an incitement for the insurgency. While the Administration argues that we must stay the course to help Iraqis accomplish key objectives, our very presence is actually detracting from progress toward those objectives. In order to jump-start progress, our troops must begin to come home.

How we leave does matter. We must leave in a way that maximizes Iraq's chances to govern and defend itself. At the same time, we cannot become hostages to the failures of Administration policy, prolonging our stay in a situation where our very presence is a continuing provocation. That is why I joined with Rep. BRAD MILLER last fall in introducing H.J. Res. 70, which would require the President to deliver the exit strategy that the troops and the American people deserve. Today, I am renewing that call.

Let me explain in clear terms what a responsible exit strategy means:

We need to hear that the President has a plan for reducing our presence in Iraq within a reasonable timeframe. "As they stand up, we will stand down" isn't a strategy; it is a slogan. A responsible exit strategy would set out, in clear and realistic terms, a plan to guide our troops through their departure from Iraq and a strategy for reducing our military commitment. We must be willing to adapt to changing conditions, but a responsible exit strategy must not hold our troops hostage to the Iraqi people's ability to resolve their own differences.

We need to hear that such a plan would begin with an initial, near-term drawdown of U.S. forces. The Administration has repeatedly hinted that a significant drawdown may be imminent, but has quietly backed away from such predictions over and over again. A near-term, initial drawdown of forces would send a message to Iraqis that we have no permanent designs on their country, that our presence is coming to an end, and that they need to step forward to take the reins of responsibility.

We also need to hear a pledge from the President that we will not establish long-term bases on Iraqi soil. When I questioned General John Abizaid, commander of U.S. Central Command, in a recent subcommittee hearing, he refused to make a commitment not to establish permanent bases. In the wake of that exchange, the House has voted twice to force such a commitment. A House-passed amendment to the fiscal year 2006 supplemental appropriations bill to prohibit permanent U.S. bases in Iraq was removed from the final version of the bill by the Republican congressional leadership. The House recently passed a similar provision as part of the fiscal year 2007 Defense Appropriations bill, but it is unclear if it will survive in the final version of the bill. The President must heed Congress's message and send a clear signal that the U.S. has no long-term military designs in Iraq.

In addition, we need to hear that there is a plan to continue to support Iraq when our troops depart. Such a plan would mean ongoing U.S. assistance for the Iraqi government as it crafts policies to facilitate unity, security, and prosperity. This support will be particularly critical as Iraq revisits its constitution later this year. It also means support for the development of Iraqi institutions like its parliament, its judiciary, and its security forces.

Such a plan would also involve increased and assertive engagement by the international

community to increase its involvement. The international community has pledged billions of dollars in resources for Iraq that it has not yet delivered. Just as importantly, however, we need the international community to have a presence in Iraq, working with the Iraqi government, mediating disputes between sectarian parties, establishing greater ties with Iraq's economy, and supporting the development of civil society.

Finally, this plan would require engaging Iraq's neighbors to play a constructive role in giving Iraq a chance to succeed. This means pledging not to interfere in Iraq's affairs. It also means securing borders, training Iraqi security forces, and welcoming Iraq into regional institutions. I was encouraged that the Administration tentatively agreed to conduct a dialogue with Iran on its involvement in Iraq. I hope that this effort will move forward and that similar efforts will engage other Gulf States.

These are the elements of a responsible exit strategy. This is the type of leadership that the President owes our troops and the American people. After more than three years, the loss of more than 2,500 American troops' lives, and \$400 billion, this is the type of leadership that is long overdue.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF JOE PURCELL

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Joe Purcell who passed away in 1987 at the age of 63. On June 24, 2006, a memorial dedication ceremony will be held to memorialize Joe Purcell, one of the finest citizens and public servants that the city of Benton and the state of Arkansas have ever known. This dedication will recognize Purcell's legacy and life-long devotion to public service. Joe was an admired and cherished member of the Benton community and I would like to take a few moments to recognize his achievements.

Joe Purcell was born on July 29, 1923, in Warren, Arkansas. After graduating from Little Rock Junior College, Joe served his country and entered the Army during World War II. After his time in the military, Joe attended the University of Arkansas School of Law, where he graduated in 1952. That same year, he began practicing law in Benton.

Beginning in 1955, he served four years as city attorney in Benton. In 1959, Joe became Municipal Judge, a post he held until 1966 when he was elected Arkansas State Attorney General. Joe served two terms as Arkansas State Attorney General and went on to serve three productive terms as Lieutenant Governor. He also served as acting Governor of Arkansas from January 3rd through January 9th 1979, when then Senator David Pryor stepped down to serve in the U.S. Senate, before Bill Clinton was inaugurated as Governor. Joe also served as chairman of the Arkansas Democratic Party and was chairman of the state's Bicentennial Celebration in 1976.

President Bill Clinton described Joe Purcell as "a self-made man who represented honesty and integrity in public service." This quote is inscribed on a permanent marker that will

be unveiled at the Joe Purcell Memorial Dedication Ceremony. The marker will hold a special place of honor in front of the Old Federal Building in Benton, Arkansas.

Joe Purcell spent a lifetime dedicated to the community of Benton and the betterment of the lives of others. While Joe may no longer be with us, the marker placed in his memory will remind others of his commitment to public service and pay tribute to a truly remarkable man. Joe was an admired and cherished member of the Benton, Arkansas community and his memory will continue to live on in the lives he touched and the accomplishments he achieved.

ON BEHALF OF THE BEST
FRIENDS KINDNESS WEEKEND

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that this weekend, June 23–25, 2006, has been designated by Best Friends Animals Society as Best Friends Kindness Weekend.

The way a society treats its animals speaks to the core values and priorities of its citizens.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Friends of Animals Caucus, I am committed to animal welfare because I believe animals are vital to our livelihood, and I believe humankind has an obligation to all animals. Some species have become our companions, some play important roles in sensitive ecosystems, and some are raised for food. It is our duty to protect and care for all of these animals.

The Best Friends Weekend reminds all of us how animals enrich our lives through their companionship, friendship and love.

This weekend of kindness activities should serve as a reminder to all of us, that in this increasing fragmented society we need to be ever more compassionate about the animals in our world, whether they are companion pets, service animals, zoo critters, livestock, or nature's wildlife. It is a reminder that the bond between humans and animals is a vital one and is capable of bringing joy and healing to people of all ages. It is also a reminder to be more kind and compassionate to our fellow man.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN
ROBERT "HAL" SMITH

HON. JON. C. PORTER

OF NEVADA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor CAPT Robert Hallock Smith, a dear friend of mine, for his outstanding service to the United States and memorable impact on the State of Nevada, the city of Henderson, and the Southern Nevada Community. Hal passed away on Monday, June 19, 2006 at the age of 89.

Hal was born in Mitchell, South Dakota on February 9, 1917. Shortly thereafter, his family moved to Ellensburg, Washington. Upon graduation from high school, he moved to South-

ern California to attend Pasadena City College and The California Institute of Technology, earning a degree in aeronautical engineering. He later attended La Salle University and the Naval War College, taking courses in command training and international political science.

In the late 1930's, Hal was commissioned as a pilot in the U.S. Navy, and served in active duty in World War II and the Korean War as a division officer on the aircraft carrier USS *Leyte*. Hal worked at the Lake Mead Naval Base and retired as a Navy Captain. He then worked as a partner and manager of Henderson Builders' Supply for 10 years, and was Vice-President for Nevada operations of Prudential Securities/Burrows Smith Division. Hal served on many active service positions including the Henderson Charter Commission, Civil Service Board, Western States Water Council, Clark County Bond Commission, Nevada Ethics Commission, and Nevada State Board of Education. In 1966, Hal was elected to the Nevada State Assembly, serving two terms, and served in the Nevada State Senate from 1988 to 1994. During this time Hal was a member of Rotary Club International, Masonic Lodge, Shriners, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion. As a capstone to Hal's career, the Clark County School District honored him by naming a school after him, the Hal Smith Elementary School.

Hal's greatest accomplishment in life was his family. On June 1, 1940, Hal married his love Tina. Together they had three children: Victoria who married Colin Holman; Peter who married Marilyn Mendive; and Christy, who married John Winlow. They also have nine grandchildren, Danny, Marc, Erin, Christian, Derek, Amanda, Hal, Katie, and Whitney, and ten great-grandchildren, Isaiah, Danielle, McKenzie, Thomas, Ava, Benjamin, Maia, Grantham, Delaney, and Alexander.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize CAPT Robert Hallock Smith on the floor of the House. My friend Hal served his family, Southern Nevada, and the United States of America with honor, and he will be greatly missed.

HONORING MR. STEVE HELLER,
TEACHER AT ADLAI E. STEVENSON
HIGH SCHOOL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Steve Heller, a teacher at Adlai E. Stevenson High School, who has been recognized by a Presidential Scholar student or his great skill, knowledge, and dedication in the classroom. It is my pleasure to be able to congratulate Steve on this commendation.

As a shining example within an extremely able and talented staff of teachers, Mr. Heller, achievement reflects the extraordinarily high quality of education available at Adlai E. Stevenson High School. The school's stunning record includes four Blue Ribbon Awards for Excellence in Education and several other prizes. It has been ranked by Newsweek and U.S. News and World Report as one of the top 100 high schools in America. As an integral part of Lincolnshire, Illinois, the perpetuation of its high standards through the efforts of

such outstanding teachers as Mr. Heller is of great benefit to students, parents and the wider community.

Mr. Heller's efforts have recently been highlighted by a nomination from a student on the Presidential Scholars program. This scheme, which started in 1964, sees two students from each state, and an additional 40 at large, selected every year by the U.S. Department of Education for their academic excellence along with exemplary work in community service and the arts.

Each of these star students has, since 1983, been asked to nominate one teacher that they felt was the most challenging and motivational in their academic careers. Mr. Heller was chosen this year for the commendation by his student and Presidential Scholar recipient Michele Trickey.

It is my privilege and pleasure to recognize Steve Heller, whose extraordinary efforts in education make him a beacon to his profession. I call on the House to join me in congratulating him and Michele on their achievements.

HONORING DAVIS HIGH SCHOOL
CHOIRS AND THE LLANGOLLEN
INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Davis High School Advanced Treble and Madrigal Choirs as they prepare to perform at the 60th Diamond Anniversary International Musical Eisteddfod to be held in Llangollen, Northern Wales, this July 4th to 9th.

The Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod began in 1946, following the devastation of World War II, with the mission of promoting international peace through music, song and dance. Nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004, the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod draws competitors from more than 50 countries. Luminaries such as Luciano Pavarotti and Charlotte Church participated as children in past competitions.

The Davis High School Advanced Treble Choir and Madrigal Choir are the only high school choirs from the United States to compete in the 2006 festival. Davis High School is only the second high school from California ever to represent their state and nation in this prestigious competition. The choirs are greatly honored to be part of an event whose purpose is the promotion of international peace and understanding through the bonds of music and friendship.

At a time when the need for cultural understanding among nations is great, the invitation highlights the choirs' cherished tradition of inclusiveness. Musically, they represent a legacy of more than 30 years for the Madrigal choir and an investment of more than five years in the development of the Advanced Treble choir. The distinguished invitation to Llangollen attests to the reputation built by predecessors and to the support of the wider Davis community. Funds have been raised in the community to ensure that every singer in the choirs is able to make the trip to Wales.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we commend and convey best wishes to the Davis High School Advanced Treble and Madrigal Choirs, and send our greetings and congratulations to all those involved in the 60th Diamond Anniversary Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod.

DECLARING THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to House Resolution 861.

While I reaffirm my commitment to do everything possible to support the men and women serving our country in Iraq, I will not dishonor them by supporting this sham resolution.

This resolution is no more than a deceitful effort by the Republican leadership to justify an ill conceived war—a war based on faulty and manipulated intelligence and years of reckless and costly decisions.

These decisions have increased threats to our national security and drained our treasury of valuable resources needed for critical programs such as education, healthcare, research and job training.

The reality, Mr. Speaker, is that the President has lost support for this war as America has become increasingly aware of the Administration's deception and lack of a clear plan for success. A plan such as the one outlined in Congressman MURTHA's resolution would protect our troops and bring them home as safely and as quickly possible.

The resolution before this House is nothing more than a ploy to regain support and political advantage by once again blurring the lines between the devastating 9/11 attacks and the ongoing war in Iraq. This connection has repeatedly been discredited.

In the aftermath of 9/11, the United States justifiably invaded Afghanistan in pursuit of Osama Bin Laden, who is the man we know was responsible for the 9/11 attacks.

U.S. intelligence sources tell us we were close to capturing him, but then the President redirected our troops and resources to invade Iraq.

As a consequence of the President's decision, the terrorist responsible for the deaths of thousands of Americans is still free, Iraq has in fact become a breeding ground for terrorists, and the invasion has inflamed hatred towards our country and has jeopardized our ability to quickly form a strong international coalition to fight terrorism abroad and protect us at home.

If the Republican leadership were sincere about honoring our troops, they would have provided them with the full equipment they are still lacking, and they would not for example, have passed a budget with a \$6 billion cut to Veterans Healthcare, or rejected Democratic amendments to increase badly needed funding in the Military Quality of Life appropriations bill.

Mr. Speaker, sending our troops into Iraq ill equipped, with no plan for success, and no exit strategy was a shameful mistake.

For the Republican leadership to play politics with this resolution and mask true support for our troops with mere words and rhetoric is disgraceful.

I, like every American, support our troops and honor their patriotism.

Their heroism and resolve to fight for our country, despite the deplorable circumstance under which they were sent to Iraq, heightens my pride in their service and strengthens my resolve to bring them home quickly and safely.

I will not dishonor them by supporting this Republican charade.

H.R. 4939

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend the Chairman and Ranking Member for their support of my request to include \$228 million in funding for the C-17 aircraft procurement in H.R. 4939, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror and Hurricane Recovery.

This funding allows for the procurement of seven new aircraft and clearly signifies the Defense Department's growing commitment to the future construction of the C-17 aircraft through fiscal year 2008.

The House and Senate are fervent believers in the C-17, as this plane has exceeded all expectations and is one of the most successful airlift cargo aircrafts of the Defense Department. The C-17 is currently being flown 160 percent more than usual to deliver supplies to war theatres and to conduct humanitarian missions. The C-17 is vital to our national security, and an irreplaceable tool for our country to meet our growing global commitments.

The C-17 is fighting for America, and I have proudly led the fight for the C-17. My work with the Secretary of the Air Force, letters to the Secretary of Defense and working with the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Appropriations Committees of both the House and Senate have resulted in the appropriations we have had approved. In December, I proudly delivered a letter to the President that had the signatures of 148 House Members and 13 Senators supporting the C-17 program. I am pleased to represent the Boeing Company in my District, and the skilled workforce who calls Southern California their home.

Mr. Speaker, while I am pleased that Congress has done its part for the next fiscal year to provide much-needed C-17's to our troops to fight the War on Terror and to serve humanitarian needs both at home and abroad, I will only intensify my pursuit of further funding. The American Armed Forces deserve to fly with only the best.

TRIBUTE TO SCOTTSBORO POLICE CHIEF KEITH SMITH

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Scottsboro Police Chief Keith

Smith, who recently announced his retirement after 35 years of public service.

Chief Smith started his career in law enforcement as a Military Police Officer in the United States Army in 1966. After serving 1 year in Vietnam, he was honorably discharged before joining the Scottsboro Police Department in 1971. He was named the Chief of Police in 1980 and has served in that position ever since.

Mr. Speaker, as Police Chief, he continually modernized and upgraded the department's technologies and methods of crime prevention. Through his leadership, the City of Scottsboro has maintained a low crime rate and has established itself to be a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

I consider it a privilege to have worked with Chief Smith on a variety of issues facing the City of Scottsboro and all of Northeast Alabama. His unique ability to serve the public and work with a number of elected officials over his unprecedented 26 year term is quite remarkable.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Smith is well respected throughout our local community. On Sunday, June 25th, the Scottsboro community will gather to honor and celebrate all of his achievements. I rise today, to join in their celebration and to thank Chief Smith for his many years of dedicated service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER GUAM GOVERNOR BILL DANIEL

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Governor Bill Daniel, a former Governor of Guam, who passed away Tuesday, June 20, 2006, at his home in Liberty, TX, at the age of ninety. His legacy has left an indelible imprint on our island and our people. Daniel served as Governor of Guam from 1961 to 1963. He was appointed to this position by President John F. Kennedy. Governor Daniel not only rose to the task, he adopted the island as his second home and implemented changes that continue to benefit our island to this day.

Governor Daniel was a "hands-on" leader. He mounted a massive, island-wide clean-up campaign that included cutting a trail to reach the isolated Talofofo Falls, which continues to serve as one of the island's most beautiful and popular sites for visitors. Before his first 100 days ended, Governor Daniel signed legislation upgrading education by elevating the College of Guam to a four-year institution of higher learning now known as the University of Guam. The University of Guam today is an accredited institution providing quality education to approximately 3,000 students on our island.

He is however best known for removing the security clearance requirement for persons who traveled to or from Guam, including residents. The lifting of this clearance is acknowledged as the single most important act which stimulated Guam's economy.

Governor Daniel was a true visionary whose deep love for our island and our people is manifested in his accomplishments as Governor of Guam. In addition to his many successes, he never wavered in his belief that our

island was ready for a greater degree of self-governance. In 1963, Governor Daniel resigned from his position, allowing the Honorable Manuel Guerrero, his friend and protégé, to succeed him as Governor.

Governor Daniel was instrumental in helping shape our island and his success in removing the security clearance paved the way for our thriving visitor industry and private sector development. Though his tenure was brief, Governor Daniel's deep affection for Guam never waned. He set up a scholarship fund at the University of Guam to ensure his legacy in promoting higher education. He maintained his relationship with many of our leaders throughout the years, especially those leaders he mentored, and he remained an advocate and a friend of Guam. My late husband, former Governor Ricky Bordonado, was inspired by Governor Daniel's leadership and he always counted Governor Daniel as one of the most important leaders of our island and a historical figure whose vision changed our island. I will always remember him as that larger than life Texan whose greatest contribution was in knowing how to encourage local leaders. He had the wisdom to step aside at the right moment so that the people of Guam can exercise self-governance, and for that graciousness, we will always be thankful.

My thoughts and prayers are with his daughters Ann, Susan and Dani. I join all the people of Guam in expressing our deepest gratitude for his dedication and service to our island. He will be dearly missed.

HEALTH CENTERS RENEWAL ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 5573, the Health Centers Renewal Act of 2006.

Federal community health centers provide health care services to poor and under-served communities across the country. They serve the uninsured, the homeless, rural residents, farm workers, and others who have no other access to care. These centers make health care accessible and affordable through outreach programs, education initiatives, and translation services, and many people rely on these centers for their primary care.

There are over 1,000 federal community health centers across the United States, and we are fortunate in my congressional district of El Paso, TX, to have three excellent health centers.

Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe has been serving clients in the El Paso area since 1967. The organization currently operates eight clinics, including a new Child and Adolescent Wellness Center and an HIV/AIDS clinic. La Fe also employs over 300 El Pasoans.

Project Vida is a multi-service agency in El Paso that has a long record of delivering quality services to those in need. The organization operates three health care clinics in our community.

Finally, Centro San Vicente provides a comprehensive range of health care services, including primary care, dental care, and behavior health services, to El Pasoans.

Mr. Speaker, in my congressional district and across America, community health centers are essential to keeping our constituents healthy and our communities strong. H.R. 5573 will assist them in their important efforts, and I ask all of my colleagues to support the bill.

DECLARING THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR

SPEECH OF

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2006

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution, in support of our troops, and in support of our Nation's efforts in the Global War on Terror.

In both Iraq and Afghanistan, we find ourselves locked in a struggle with an enemy that despises liberty and embraces an ideology of hate.

Terrorists did not declare war on us the morning of September 11, 2001. It started long before that. Consider the following:

In November of 1979, radical Iranians seized the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, holding 53 American hostages for 444 days.

Less than four years later, 63 people died when the U.S. Embassy in Beirut is bombed.

Scant months later, 242 Americans and 58 French are killed by simultaneous suicide bombers in the American and French compounds in Beirut.

March 1984, Islamic terrorists kidnapped and murdered Political Officer William Buckley.

One year later, terrorists seized the Italian cruise liner the Achille Lauro and killed Leon Klinghoffer, a 69-year-old American who was confined to a wheelchair.

In June of 1985, Lebanese Hizballah terrorists hijacked a TWA flight forcing the plane to fly to Beirut. Eight crew members and 145 passengers are held hostage for 17 days, during which time a U.S. sailor is murdered.

April 1986, two U.S. soldiers are killed and 79 are injured when Libyan nationals detonated bombs in a West Berlin discotheque.

Two years later, Libyans again take American lives when Pan Am Flight 103 exploded over Lockerbie, Scotland. All of the 259 people on board are killed.

On February 26, 1993, for the first time, Islamic terrorists strike on American soil when a car bomb explodes in the garage of the World Trade Center, killing six and injuring 1,000.

On April 14, 1993, Iraqi intelligence operatives attempted to assassinate former President Bush.

In 1995, a car bomb exploded at a U.S. military complex in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, one U.S. citizen is killed.

Seven months later a truck bomb detonated outside the Khobar Towers in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Nineteen Airmen are killed and 515 people are wounded.

In August of 1998, the U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania fall victim to coordinated attacks. Over 300 are killed.

Two years later, a small watercraft laden with explosives rammed into the U.S.S. *Cole*, killing 17 U.S. sailors.

Finally, September 11, 2001, two hijacked airliners hit the World Trade Center towers,

another plane crashed into the Pentagon and a fourth plane, headed for either the White House or U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., crashed in a Pennsylvania cornfield. All told, 3,025 perish.

But until we took action in Afghanistan, our response to terror was often non-existent, sporadic, or inconsistent.

In the wake of September 11, the American people rightfully demanded that their elected officials make a commitment to aggressively combat terrorism. We went into Afghanistan to proactively stop further attacks on innocent Americans. Afghanistan was a haven for al-Qaeda, and the terror attacks on our own soil showed us that we can no longer rely on oceans and geography to protect our homeland from attack. Thus, we must drain the swamps where terrorism breeds and take the fight to those who have, through their own words and deeds, declared war on us.

In addition to the real-life need to protect our citizens, there is a larger meaning in our efforts in the Global War on Terror. Those we fight abhor freedom and liberty. They shun religious tolerance and view with disdain our deeply held belief that every person is endowed with basic human rights. And make no doubt about it—our enemy in the Global War on Terror is determined to impose their dangerous ideology on innocent people around the globe. The carnage of September 11 showed us that we can no longer turn a blind eye as hate-filled terrorists plot against our Nation and its citizens.

Then there is the question of Iraq. Hindsight is 20/20, and we now know that Iraq did not possess significant stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction. But let us look at the evidence from the time—the evidence upon which the Congress, the Administration, and our allies around the world had to judge the threat posed by Iraq.

Saddam Hussein had a long history of pursuing weapons of mass destruction. Like the terrorist acts against this country, Saddam's determination to pursue weapons of mass destruction and desire to intimidate his neighbors in the region began long ago.

In the 1970's, Iraq started constructing a nuclear reactor in Osirak. The international community did nothing in response to this gathering threat. Israel, not content to watch Saddam Hussein move forward with a nuclear program, destroyed the reactor in 1981.

In the 1980s and the early part of the 1990s, Saddam Hussein's regime proved time and again that they were a threat to peace and stability in the region. Saddam repeatedly, almost continually, used chemical and biological weapons on his own citizens and Iranian troops. For example:

In August 1983, Saddam used mustard gas on almost 100 Iranians and Kurds in Haji Uman.

From October through November of that same year, he used mustard gas on 3,000 Iranians and Kurds in Panjwin.

One year later on Manjoon Island, Saddam again used mustard gas on 2,500 Iranians.

Simultaneously, he used the nerve agent tabun on 50 to 100 Iranians in Al Basrah.

A year later, in March of 1985, mustard and tabun were used in Hawizah Marsh on 3,000 Iranians.

February of 1986 in Al-Faw, mustard and tabun were used against 8,000 to 10,000 Iranians.

Later in 1986 in Urmia-Rasas, mustard gas was used against thousands of Iranians.

Then in April of 1987 at Al-Basrah, mustard and tabun were used on 3,000 Iranians.

Later that year, mustard and a nerve agent were used in Sumar/Mehran on 5,000 Iranians.

In March of 1988, mustard and a nerve agent were used on thousands of Iranians and Kurds in Halabjah and Kurdish areas respectively.

One month later, Al-Faw again sees destruction when mustard and a nerve agent were used on thousands of Iranians.

One month after that, Fish Lake sees hundreds or thousands of Iranians succumb to mustard or a nerve agent.

In June of 1988, Manjoon Island was attacked with mustard and nerve agent, this time hundreds or thousands were affected.

July of that year, the chemical agents were again used along the South-central border with the same effect.

One month later in Hajj Umrnan, mustard gas was used on less than 100 Kurds.

And finally, in March of 1991 in the An-Najaf-Karbala area, nerve agent was yet again used by Hussein's regime.

These attacks demonstrate beyond a shadow of a doubt Saddam Hussein's willingness to use weapons of mass destruction against not only his foreign enemies, but even his own citizens.

Now, let us remember that the intelligence community around the world continued to assert that Iraq under Saddam Hussein continued to pursue the means to produce and deploy weapons of mass destruction. It would have been irresponsible—in light of Saddam's record of using these weapons—to ignore these intelligence warnings. And I might also add that in the wake of these intelligence shortcomings and in response to the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission, the House has taken concrete steps to improve our intelligence gathering and analytical capabilities.

Three years ago when I addressed this House on the resolution authorizing the use of force against Iraq, I said, "while I do not find sufficient evidence to establish a concrete link between Iraq and the al-Qaeda terrorist that committed the terrorist acts of September 11th, the fact remains that Iraq continues to sponsor terrorists with global reach."

I think this analysis holds true today. To use the words of British Prime Minister Tony Blair, "September 11 was not an isolated event but a tragic prologue, Iraq another act, and many further struggles will be set upon this stage before it's over."

Let us remember—Iraq had been labeled a State Sponsor of Terrorism by both the current Bush Administration as well as the Clinton Administration. Removing this breeding ground of terrorism was and is in this country's best interest.

Furthermore, Saddam demonstrated a complete disregard for his international obligations. Over the course of more than a decade, he willfully violated or simply ignored 17 U.N. Security Council Resolutions. He attempted to assassinate our former President, and he continually violated the peace treaty that he signed to end the first Gulf War. And let us not forget that Saddam also invaded two of his sovereign neighbors.

Saddam Hussein's blatant disregard for basic human rights was well-documented. He

used fear and intimidation to retain his grip on power, and his henchmen employed torture, rape, murder and a host of other unspeakable crimes to keep the Iraqi populace under his tyrannical control. I think it is again worth reminding my colleagues that these evil individuals no longer control Iraq, and Saddam finds himself on trial before his fellow Iraqis for crimes against his own people.

I believe that history will excuse the errors in our intelligence about weapons of mass destruction and reach a common-sense conclusion—military action to remove Saddam Hussein from power was justified, and the world is a safer place with Saddam Hussein in a jail cell.

The storm clouds were gathering in Iraq. As Franklin Delano Roosevelt said in his 1941 State of the Union Address, "when the dictators . . . are ready to make war upon us, they will not wait for an act of war on our part . . . they—not we—will choose the time and the place and the method of their attack." The wisdom of President Franklin Roosevelt still rings true today. It would have been a grave mistake to dismiss or ignore the threat posed by Saddam Hussein.

Our actions in Iraq and in Afghanistan were in response to the global threat we faced from state sponsors of terror that harbored and assisted our enemies. And whether you supported or opposed military action in Afghanistan and the use of force in Iraq, the fact of the matter is that we now have troops in the field working diligently to help fledgling democracies take hold in the Middle East. The world is watching, and we must remain committed to our principles and our mission. And we have a duty to stand behind our troops.

It is in our national security interests for the seeds of democracy take hold in Iraq. And we must continue to train and assist Iraqis to provide for their own security. A significant step towards the goal of a free, peaceful and independent Iraq will be the development of security forces, composed of and led by Iraqis, that is firmly under the direction and control of the freely elected government.

Ultimately, success will be achieved when Iraq is a stable country that is no longer a threat to the region or global security, a peaceable country that respects the rights of its citizens and its neighbors.

This is a difficult but worthwhile endeavor. And we are making tangible progress.

Iraqi security forces are growing in number and taking more responsibility for internal security. We have now trained more than 240,000 security forces, and these men and even some women are now beginning to take the lead in the fight against terrorist insurgents. Indigenous personnel and intelligence assets played a key role in the successful mission that led to the elimination of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, al-Qaeda's leader in Iraq.

Democracy is taking root in Iraq. The Iraqi people have approved what is arguably the most progressive constitution in the Arab world, and last December, 75 percent of voting age Iraqis freely elected their new government. Iraq now has a new Prime Minister, Jawad al-Maliki, and the Prime Minister has filled all of the positions in his cabinet. The new government is a representative cross-section of Iraq's diverse religious and ethnic populations.

Things are moving forward on the economic front. In 2005, the Iraqi economy grew by an

estimated 2.6 percent in real terms and the International Monetary Fund has estimated that it will grow by more than 10 percent this year. Foreign and domestic banks are opening new offices in Iraq and a stock market has been established. Vital infrastructure—schools, hospitals, fire stations and the like—continues to come online.

Progress in Iraq has been slow, but it is happening, and slowly but surely, things are moving in the right direction.

It has been suggested by some in this Chamber that we should either immediately remove our troops from Iraq or set artificial timelines for withdrawal. Like all Americans, I want our troops to return as soon as is possible. But I think it would be short-sighted to withdraw our military until stability has been established in Iraq. A premature withdrawal would waste the sacrifice of those who have worked so hard to promote freedom in the heart of the Middle East.

The National Defense Authorization Act for 2006 stated that "2006 should be a period of significant transition to full Iraqi sovereignty with Iraqi security forces taking the lead for the security of a free and sovereign Iraq." I agree with this language.

However, the job now is not finished. Iraqi security forces are not ready to counter all of the threats that are facing Iraq and cannot secure their country on their own. If we made the ill-fated decision to turn our backs on the Iraqi people, we would doom their brief experience with democracy and risk creating a lawless safe-haven for terrorists.

Our enemies know what is at stake in Iraq. Al-Qaeda views Iraq as the frontline in their efforts to combat the spread of democracy in the Middle East. They realize that our success in Iraq is a direct threat to their ideology of fear and hate. To walk away now from our mission in Iraq would be portrayed in the Arab World as a significant victory for al-Qaeda. It would draw into question our commitment to our allies in the region and our commitment to the very principles upon which our Nation is based.

Like all Americans, I want our troops home as soon as possible. And we as Congress have a constitutional obligation to weigh-in on this effort and ensure that our Nation's policy is consistent with a goal of achieving victory in Iraq. And as appealing as an immediate withdrawal may be to certain segments of our society, I think it would be irresponsible for Congress to turn our back on our obligations and call for the removal of troops from Iraq before the mission has been accomplished. And as a matter of fairness, the embrace of a "cut and run" approach to Iraq would waste the sacrifice of thousands of American troops who have served in Iraq.

Since September 11, 2001, we have not had a major terrorist attack on American soil, despite the clear desire of our enemy to again strike us here at home. We have terminated or captured dangerous terrorists around the globe, disrupted their financing, and denied them safe-haven. We should be proud of these accomplishments, but remain vigilant in recognizing that more work remains.

God willing, we will prevail in this struggle. May God bless the United States, and God bless the soldiers that defend it.

WELCOMING NEW AMBASSADOR
OF UGANDA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new Ambassador of Uganda to the United States.

His Excellency Perezi Kamunanwire presented his credentials to President Bush last month, succeeding the long-serving ambassador, Mrs. Edith Ssemपाला.

Ambassador Kamunanwire's previous diplomatic experience includes serving as his country's ambassador to Germany (1986–88) and to the United Nations in New York (1988–96).

In his capacity as a senior African diplomat, Ambassador Kamunanwire has also served as chairman of the Committee of African Ambassadors to the UN (1990–91); chairman of the Special Political Committee of the 45th session of the UN General Assembly (1991); chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Committee to Elect the UN Secretary General (1991); vice chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the 1992 UN Conference on Environmental Development (1991); chairman of the Committee for Rationalization and Revitalization of the Work of the UN General Assembly (1993); co-convenor of the Seventh Pan-African Congress in Kampala, Uganda (1994); and vice president of the UN Non-Proliferation Treaty Review (1995).

Ambassador Kamunanwire has also had a distinguished career in the academic world. Since 2003, he has been an adjunct professor at the Center for Conflict Management and Organizational Research at Bulgaria's Sophia University.

From 1997 to 1999, Ambassador Kamunanwire was director of the Black Studies Program at the City College of the City University of New York, where he has also been a lecturer since 1974. Since 1997, he has also served as a lecturer in the International Relations Program of City College's Department of Sociology. At City College, he has developed and taught courses on the United Nations, African politics, human rights, and other related topics.

Ambassador Kamunanwire was educated at Columbia University in New York, where he earned a B.A. in political science and a master's degree in international relations.

Ambassador Kamunanwire is the author of *Education for Development: The Establishment and the Success of Universal Primary Education in Uganda* (2000) and co-editor of *A Study Guide for Uganda* (1970). He contributed the foreword to *We, The PanAfrikans: Essays on the Global Black Experience*, by Professor Kannuti Kiteme (1973).

In 2003, Ignatius College in New York awarded Ambassador Kamunanwire an honorary doctor of laws degree, in recognition of "lifetime achievements in the field of international relations."

On June 14, my colleague (Mr. SMITH of New Jersey) and I, in our capacity as co-chairs of the Congressional Caucus on Uganda, hosted a welcome reception for Ambassador Kamunanwire. The Department of State's "Washington File" published an article about that event the next day ("U.S. Lawmaker Hails Uganda as Emerging 'Superstar'"), which,

without objection, I would like to insert in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Ambassador Kamunanwire is a personable human being and an able diplomat. I look forward to working with him on issues of common concern to Uganda and the United States.

[From the Washington File, June 15, 2006]

U.S. LAWMAKER HAILS UGANDA AS EMERGING
"SUPERSTAR"

(By Jim Fisher-Thompson)

WASHINGTON.—Uganda is "emerging as one of the superstars of Africa," in part because of its success in fighting HIV/AIDS, House Africa Subcommittee Chairman Chris Smith (Republican of New Jersey) said at a June 14 reception honoring Ugandan Ambassador Perezi Kamunanwire.

Smith was joined by fellow lawmaker Edolphus Towns (Democrat of New York). The lawmakers are co-chairmen of the Congressional Caucus on Uganda, formed in November 2004.

Congressional staff members, including Smith's Africa specialist, Greg Simpkins, also attended the evening event, as well as Rwandan Ambassador Zac Nsenga and former U.S. Ambassador to Sierra Leone Joseph Melrose.

Smith welcomed Ambassador Kamunanwire, most recently Uganda's envoy to Germany, who presented his credentials to President Bush on May 15, noting that he represents a country that has made significant inroads in AIDS prevention.

"Uganda is truly emerging as one of Africa's real superstars, and that is well known to people here on Capitol Hill—on both sides of the [political] aisle," Smith said.

In particular, the nation is setting an example for AIDS prevention, the lawmaker said, because of President Yoweri Museveni and his government's strategy of "working with local faith-based organizations and others . . . especially to reach young people with the message of [sex] deferral and of life for themselves and their loved ones."

Smith, a champion of human rights and health issues in Africa who has visited the continent numerous times, including a recent trip to Uganda, said, "Frankly, I was blown over by the enthusiasm I saw for family values [there] . . . so it was a very remarkable trip."

Uganda is one of 12 African nations targeted in the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), initiated by President Bush in 2003. The program is a five-year, \$15 billion effort aimed at battling the killer disease in 120 nations worldwide using the ABC strategy, which stands for "Abstain, Be faithful and Correct and Consistent use of condoms."

On the treatment front, as of March 31, life-saving antiretroviral medicines have gone to 561,000 people worldwide under the PEPFAR program—61 percent of them women. During that period, 75,000 people received anti-AIDS drugs in Uganda. Antiretroviral prophylaxis was also provided to women for 342,200 pregnancies, preventing an estimated 65,100 infant HIV infections, according to a PEPFAR fact sheet.

On the security front, Smith added, "We're also very encouraged and hopeful about what's happening in northern Uganda with the Lord's Resistance Army [LRA]," the rebel movement that has kidnapped children from villages, forcing them to serve as child soldiers.

"I know the government of Uganda is doing everything it can to try and mitigate and hopefully end that despicable activity by [LRA leader] Joseph Kony in abducting young children," Smith told the gathering.

Turning to Kamunanwire, the lawmaker pledged: "We will work with you. Our com-

mittee is a workhorse committee. We write a lot of laws" in areas such as human trafficking, and "we want to work with you on trade, environmental protection, humanitarian and human rights issues."

Kamunanwire, who described himself as "the new boy on the block," thanked the caucus for the welcome and pledged to work closely with Congress, as his predecessor Ambassador Edith Ssemपाला had done, on issues of interest to both Africa and the United States.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
HILA "DUTCH" BUCHER NEWMAN

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to my dear friend Hila "Dutch" Bucher Newman for being recognized and honored by the City of Kansas City, Missouri in naming a segment of Westport Road, the Honorary "Dutch" Newman Drive. A special on-site event will be held on Wednesday, June 28, 2006, so that family and friends can participate in the official christening of "Dutch Newman Drive," a fitting tribute to a lovely lady that has contributed so much to our community.

Dutch and her family have woven the fabric of the history of Westport, Missouri, now a vibrant neighborhood incorporated into the City of Kansas City, Missouri. Their family's connection to Westport dates back to the 1800's family patriarch, Sam Bucher, who helped settle the small frontier town. Her great-grandfather, Robert Bucher, served the city as Marshall. It could be said that Dutch learned a tradition of service most directly from her father, Harry Bucher, who protected the city as Chief of the Vice Squad for the Kansas City Police Department. He also helped stimulate the Westport economy by opening three businesses in the area, including "The Wrestlers Inn" which was located in the oldest building in Westport.

Dutch continued the family legacy of making Westport home while immersing her energies into enhancing her beloved community by providing direction through her leadership skills. Dutch was born in Westport, educated in Westport, married in Westport, owned a business in Westport, and continues to live in Westport. During World War II she served on the Civil Defense Program, planning the Blackout Tests. She holds memberships in the Daughters of Westport, The Westport Historical Society, and the Westport Neighborhood Crime Watch.

As U.S. Representative for Missouri's Fifth District, I am keenly aware and appreciative of Dutch's political contributions, knowledge, and experiences. As any elected official in our region can attest, if you need sound advice, political or otherwise, you count on Dutch. I proudly selected Dutch to represent the State of Missouri as a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging in 2005. She is a strong advocate for promoting dignity, health, independence and economic security for current and future generations of seniors. Dutch has a gift for examining you with her intense blue eyes and then providing you with the straight scoop.

Currently, Dutch serves on the Missouri Democratic Party's State Executive Board; is a Missouri State Committee Member; Chairperson of the 10th Senatorial District Committee; and has been the 5th Ward Democratic Committeewoman for over 30 years. Dutch is the Founder and President of the Westport Landing Democratic Club, former founder and Past President of the 5th District Women's Democratic Club, former Vice Chair of the Fifth Congressional District Committee, former Vice Chair of the Jackson County Democratic Committee, Past President of the State of Missouri Women's Federation Democratic Club, and was the first woman appointed by the Governor of Missouri to serve on Senatorial Redistricting Committee. Dutch has represented the State of Missouri as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention eight times. She has received many honors, including the Harry S Truman Award, Women's Fifth District "Woman of the Year Award", the Rodger A. Gooden Award for her strong commitment to social justice and inclusiveness, and the Combat Community Mother's Award. As an institution in the local Democratic Party, Dutch has stood prominently beside U.S. Presidents and other officials during their visits to Kansas City.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing the matriarch of Westport, Hila "Dutch" Bucher Newman, for her unyielding commitment to the Westport area and the Fifth District. With this honorary naming of Westport Road, we pay tribute to a lifetime of work and dedication to the betterment of her community. I urge my colleagues of the 109th Congress to join me in congratulating Dutch on her well-deserved honor.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF DAVE AND LINDA HARMON TO THE GUAM COMMUNITY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of two individuals, who, for the last 11 years, have dedicated themselves to exceptional service to our community. David and Linda Harmon, Majors in the Salvation Army, are recognized in the Guam community for their boundless benevolence and enduring commitment to serving the disadvantaged, feeding, clothing and housing those in need, and helping individuals recover from substance abuse.

David and Linda Harmon first arrived on Guam in July 1995. The Salvation Army Guam Corps has become an integral part of Guam's disaster recovery and relief system under their leadership. Dave and Linda have helped the people of Guam recover from several natural disasters since their arrival on Guam, including Supertyphoon Paka in 1997, and Typhoon Chata'an and Supertyphoon Pongsona in 2002. The Salvation Army donated thousands of dollars of food, clothing, and supplies through their efforts to many residents who lost everything as a result of these natural disasters. The organization under their leadership also assisted in providing humanitarian assistance to the Kurdish refugees who were evacuated from Iraq to Guam as part of Operation

Pacific Haven in 1996, and to Burmese refugees who came to Guam to seek political asylum in the United States in 2000. Additionally, the Salvation Army Guam Corps, under the Harmon's leadership in 1997, provided critical assistance in the aftermath of the tragic crash of Korean Air Flight 801 on Guam.

The Harmons helped establish the substance abuse recovery program which eventually became known as the Lighthouse Recovery Center. The Lighthouse Recovery Center has grown from meager beginnings to a 16-bed residence today, and has helped start over 200 men down the road to recovery from substance abuse and addiction. With guidance from the Harmons the Corp's Thrift Store was expanded. And after acquisition of the former Navy Chapel at Tiyan, the Salvation Army developed its Food Bank and Education Center as their Family Services and One Stop Homeless Assistance Center.

The Harmons have been active citizens in the Guam community outside of the Salvation Army as well. They are members of the Guam Symphony Society, the Rotary Club of Tumon Bay, the Guam Homeless Coalition, the Council on Homelessness, and Linda is a past president and member of the Guam Women's Club.

Mr. Speaker, over the years, I have come to personally know the Harmons. I helped welcome them to Guam as Lieutenant Governor when they first arrived on the island, and as a Charter Member of Guam Corps, I have worked closely with them in the activities of the Salvation Army. David and Linda are kind, self-sacrificing, and have a genuine, passionate love for Guam and its people. They are dear friends to many, and we will all miss them when they leave Guam for their next duty station. I am only comforted by the fact that the Salvation Army Santa Monica, California Corps will be in very capable hands under their leadership.

Therefore, on behalf of a grateful island, I join their children, Joel, Fred, Holly, and Lisa, and all the people of Guam in extending a heartfelt "Dangkulo na Si Yu'os Ma'ase" to David and Linda Harmon for all the good they have done for the people of Guam and for their service to our community.

SIKHS IN PUNJAB DEMAND INDEPENDENCE WHILE OBSERVING ANNIVERSARY OF GOLDEN TEMPLE MASSACRE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, June 3 through June 6 marked the anniversary of a very dark chapter in history, the Indian government's military invasion of the Golden Temple, the seat of the Sikh religion, in 1984. That atrocity was commemorated by Sikhs and others all over the world. There were demonstrations here in Washington and in many cities.

At the Golden Temple in Amritsar they had a ceremony to commemorate the occasion. The Jathedar of the Akal Takht, Joginder Singh Vedanti, the highest Sikh religious leader, led the commemoration. During his remarks, he did not mention Saul Jmail Singh Bhindranwale, the leader of the Sikhs who

was murdered at the Golden Temple, or General Shabeg Singh or any of the others who were murdered. This displeased the crowd.

The Sikhs in attendance, hundreds of them, chanted slogans of "Khalistan Zindabad," which means "Long live Khalistan." Khalistan is the Sikh homeland which declared itself independent from India on October 7, 1987. These chants show that the movement to liberate Khalistan is still alive in Punjab. Last year, there were speeches and flag-raising on the Golden Temple anniversary. There were similar events this past January. Those events resulted in arrests and criminal complaints, even though the Indian courts have ruled that speaking out [or Khalistan is not a crime. In spite of these intimidation tactics, the Sikhs spoke out again for Khalistan.

Over 20,000 Sikhs were killed in the Golden Temple attack and the attacks on 37 other Gurdwaras around Punjab, known as Operation Bluestar. During Operation Bluestar, the Indian army shot bullet holes in the Sikh holy scriptures, the Guru Granth Sahib. Young boys were taken outside and summarily shot. The Golden Temple itself was ransacked and severely damaged. Do these sound like the acts of a democracy?

If India were truly committed to democratic values, at the very least, the Indian government would issue a public apology to the Sikhs and pay compensation to the victims' families.

The Golden Temple attacks show that there is no place for Sikhs in India, and other minorities also feel the massive repression of "the world's largest democracy." More than a quarter of a million Sikhs have been killed and over 52,000 continue to be held as political prisoners. India has killed over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland and tens of thousands more in the rest of the country, as well as more than 90,000 Kashmiri Muslims, thousands more Muslims around India, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Bodos, Manipuris, Tamils, and other minorities. For minority peoples and nations, India is one of the world's worst tyrannies. It is a democracy for the Brahmins and a police state for the minorities.

This is not acceptable, Mr. Speaker. I would like to express the sympathy of the Congress to the Sikh Nation for the Golden Temple massacre. In light of this atrocity and the ongoing atrocities of the Indian government, I wonder why the United States continues to fund such a country. The time has come, Mr. Speaker, to stop our aid and trade with India and to support self-determination for all peoples and nations in South Asia. This is the best way to bring about stability, peace, freedom, and prosperity in the subcontinent, to defuse the troubles there, and to make sure that every person's rights are protected.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place a couple of very good articles on the chanting of Khalistan slogans at the Golden Temple into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

[From the Tribune (Chandigarh), June 7, 2006]

RADICALS RAISE KHALISTAN SLOGANS

AMRITSAR, June 6.—Activists of various radical Sikh organizations raised slogans in favour of Khalistan on Ghallughara divas (genocide day) to mark the 22nd anniversary of Operation Bluestar in front of Akal Takht here today.

Mr. Parkash Singh Badal, president, SAD, distanced himself from it.

As soon as Mr. Simranjit Singh Mann, president, SAD (A), came out from Akal Takht after participating in ardas, radicals started raising slogans for an independent Sikh state and showed pages containing statements in favour of Khalistan and posters displaying damaged Akal Takht in the military operation. However, Mr. Badal accused those who indulged in sloganeering of being agents of the Congress, which was responsible for the infamous Army operation. He said Mr. Mann was well aware that Punjab had to suffer greatly because of this.

Mr. Mann said though they were not allowed to continue their peaceful struggle to attain independence, they would contest the next elections democratically.

Commenting on the recent judgments and coverage in newspapers, he claimed that judges and the English media had also saffronised. He asked people to raise their hands if they wanted revival of Anandpur Sahib's resolution of 1973 and for severing of relations with the Congress and the BJP.

Giani Joginder Singh Vedanti, Jathedar, Akal Takht, said the real tribute to those killed in the operation would be to protect the Sikh history and culture, and to stop apostasy and addiction among the Sikh youth.

He said the Sikh religion was formed to safeguard human ideal's of truth, righteousness and values. He added that for this reason it had to fight against rulers who forgot their duties towards the masses.

Among those present on the occasion were Mr. Avtar Singh, president, SGPC, Bibi Jagir Kaur, former SGPC president, and senior Akali leaders, including Mr. Gurdev Singh Badal, Mr. Ranjit Singh Brahmputra, Mr. Sewa Singh Sekhwan, Mr. Sucha Singh Langah, Mr. Bikramjit Singh Majithia and Mr. Guljar Singh Ranike.

IN CELEBRATION OF RUTH PASSEN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ruth Passen as she celebrates her 80th birthday. I am proud to pay tribute to her 40 years of respected community journalism as the editor and publisher of the Potrero View, and recognize her lifetime of community service and social activism. Born and raised in San Francisco, she became a formidable advocate for social justice, peace, equality, democracy and freedom.

In 1970, with a few dedicated volunteers, Ruth launched the Potrero View, which has become San Francisco's longest running community newspaper. With her guidance, the Potrero View grew from a neighborhood newsletter into an award-winning, respected, and much anticipated journal of local news, as well as a significant resource of community services. Its investigative style and editorial integrity are well-known throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

As a dear friend and right arm to the late, legendary Enola Maxwell, Ruth helped build the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, affectionately known as the Nabe, into a hub of vital services for the youth, the elderly, and the families of Potrero Hill. She was instrumental in bringing her beloved jazz and theater to the Nabe and the wider community.

Ruth was actively involved with the Women's International League of Peace and Free-

dom in the peace mobilization of the 1960s and 70s and worked in solidarity with the people of El Salvador for justice and democracy in the 1980s.

Ruth and her husband Joe Passen, whose life we celebrated on this floor 14 years ago, were relentless champions of the labor movement. Together, they fought for working men and women on the San Francisco waterfront and in the maritime industry throughout the West Coast. They helped San Francisco become the first and foremost trade union town in the world. They worked alongside Cesar Chavez in support of California's farm workers.

As Young Democrats they were part of a progressive movement in San Francisco that brought Phillip Burton, John Burton, Sala Burton and me to this people's House.

We thank Ruth for her immeasurable contributions to our City. We wish her every happiness as she begins a new chapter in her life as Editor Emerita of the Potrero View and grandmother extraordinaire. Finally, she will have much deserved time to pursue her many interests, as well as spend time with her beloved family—her son Marc, daughter-in-law Dianne, and granddaughters Natalie and Teresa. Thank you, Ruth for your years of service to our beautiful City of San Francisco.

ARTICLE EXPOSES REPRESSION OF SIKHS BY INDIA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, a good article appeared in the Argus of Fremont, California on repression of the Sikhs in India. Fremont has a large Sikh population and the article appeared earlier this month in conjunction with the commemoration of the Indian government's June 1984 attack on the Golden Temple, the most sacred Sikh shrine.

The article points out that the abuse at Abu Ghraib which embarrassed all of us, was a lesser offense than what India did to its Sikh population in June 1984 when it attacked the Golden Temple and 37 other Gurdwaras in Punjab.

The article quotes a Sikh named Jasdeep Singh as saying that "We would have said that was nothing" referring to Abu Ghraib.

Now, Mr. Speaker, since we know how atrocious the Abu Ghraib incidents are, that gives us an indication of the carnage that was inflicted on the Sikh Nation by the Indian regime in June 1984.

The article also discusses the Sikhs' desire for an independent, sovereign Khalistan, which declared its independence from India in 1987. This has been met with many years of bloody repression, including the murders of over 250,000 Sikhs and over 52,000 who are held as political prisoners in "the world's largest democracy."

Mr. Speaker, the time has come to demand self-determination and full human rights for all people in South Asia. We should stop our aid and trade with India and we should demand a free and fair plebiscite not only on the status of Khalistan, but of Kashmir (as India promised in 1948), of Nagalim, and all the nations seeking their freedom in that troubled region.

It would be good for the freedom, prosperity, and stability of all concerned.

I would like to insert the Argus article into the RECORD at this time.

[From the Argus, June 5, 2006]

FREMONT SIKHS RECALL OPPRESSION

(By Matthew Artz)

FREMONT.—Jasdeep Singh couldn't help but laugh at the uproar over the torture of prisoners at Abu Ghraib.

"We would have said that was nothing," said Singh, who moved to Fremont in 1992, he said, after Indian authorities detained and tortured him three times because he is Sikh.

Sikh nationalism barely a blip on the international radar, was front and center Sunday at the Fremont Gurdwara Sahib, the local Sikh house of worship, where community leaders reaffirmed support for transforming the Indian state of Punjab into a secular Sikh-majority state of Khalistan.

"We know from our history that Sikhs will never be safe or truly free unless they have a homeland of their own," Singh said.

For the estimated 150,000 Sikhs living in the Bay Area, Tuesday marks the anniversary of two of the most devastating and seminal events in the history of the 500-year-old faith.

In 1984, with Sikhs pressing for an independent Punjab, where they are a majority, the Indian government invaded the Golden Temple—Sikhism's holiest place—and 36 other religious sites where separatists were hiding, killing thousands. The attack came on the 378th anniversary of the torture and death of a Sikh religious leader.

Four months later, when Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was murdered by two of her Sikh bodyguards, rioters murdered thousands more Sikhs, who are easy to identify because the men wore turbans and grow long beards.

The bloodbath and ensuing eight years of repression drove many Sikhs to North America.

Now, 7,500 miles from their ancestral land, leaders of the Fremont gurdwara won't let their brethren forget about what transpired in India.

Photographs of 73 Sikhs murdered by Indian authorities in 1984, including the two men who killed the prime minister, ring the gurdwara's dining room.

On Sunday, the gurdwara installed an exhibit about their faith that included photographs of Sikh men being burned alive or beaten by Indian soldiers. Other pictures commemorated the 400th anniversary of the torture and murder of Guru Arjan Dev Ji, who refused to remove references to Islam and Hinduism from the Sikh's holy book.

"We're trying to make people aware," said Ram Singh, a gurdwara leader who plans to protest outside the Indian Consulate in San Francisco tomorrow. "We don't want our future generations to forget what happened to us."

Jasdeep Singh, an engineer, won't forget the day in 1989 when soldiers raided his graduate school boarding house and detained all the Sikhs in an effort to gain intelligence on separatist leaders.

"First the clothes came off," he said. Later, guards tied his hands behind his back and hung him from the ceiling. "These two shoulders," he said, "felt like they were going to pop out."

Since Singh arrived in Fremont, persecution of Sikhs in India has decreased and the governing Congress Party named a Sikh, Mammohan Singh, to serve as prime minister.

Years of repression followed by some reforms have stifled the independence movement in Punjab and left Sikhs in the Bay

Area divided over the nationalist cause, said Ram Singh, who favors an independent Khalistan.

"It's not that simple," said Balraj Gil as he peered at the pictures of torture. "You can't just get an independent state."

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE S. HUGH
DILLIN

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remark upon a good man, a great jurist, a wise friend now gone.

On June 23, 2006, United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, sitting en banc in Indianapolis, will conduct a memorial ceremony in honor of an extraordinary man. In 1961, Mr. Speaker, President John F. Kennedy appointed Indiana's S. Hugh Dillin to serve as a Judge of that Court. After 45 years of service, earlier this year in a snow storm we said farewell to him in Indianapolis.

A veteran of World War II, son of a lawyer in Petersburg, Indiana, he came up to the bench in Indianapolis through the politics of southern Indiana and our General Assembly, representing his beloved Pike County and leading the Senate.

I will never forget him. When I was first elected to Congress, it happened that I had emergency surgery at about the time the rest of Congress was being sworn in here in this chamber. A little glum, I watched the festivity of that occasion from a hospital bed in Indianapolis. As I did so, Judge Dillin came to my room with a brief case, introduced himself and produced a single sheet of paper for my inspection, his appointment as a Deputy Speaker of this House, and remarked that he never expected to be so close to the line of Presidential succession as he came that day. He proceeded to administer the oath of office to me and I became a Member of this body and a friend of his for life. I was delighted to bring him to Washington for the next swearing in and a picture of him with me and Speaker Gingrich overlooks my desk today.

He was a giant in the life of Indiana. All of his days he was a man of renowned wit and solid sense-based Hoosier wisdom, forever finding great voice in the resolution of disputes and the teaching of lessons. Much has been made of his stewardship of the Indianapolis school desegregation case which ground on for years, resulting in bussing of children to white suburban schools. A product of our segregated schools, I was always of several minds about the remedy but ended with confidence that he did his very best to follow the law in fashioning a solution. His life was threatened again and again for his trouble and bumper stickers advocated his impeachment, but he kept his listing in the phone book. He permitted the installation of security cameras and buzzers at his chambers but declined to lock his door.

There were many other cases and controversies in the course of his 45 years of service. His decisions involving Indiana's prisons and her treatment of inmates helped extend the Constitution to those so easily forgotten. In closing the disciplinary cells—dungeons, really—at the Indiana Reformatory he

began his entry of judgment with a recitation of the Indianapolis ordinance relating to the treatment of pets, succinctly pointing out that animals in our city were entitled to better conditions than those cells at the Reformatory provided human beings. He brought the Constitution to bear on the plight of women who were prisoners in Indiana, extending equal protection of the law in ways which helped to bring them most of the opportunities provided to male prisoners of the state: the chance to further their educations, pursue meaningful job skills, and to be imprisoned under conditions commensurate with the crimes for which they were sentenced.

There were smaller but important cases, too. A local Arsenal Technical High School girl, a fine baseball player, played on the "boy's" varsity team. The Indiana High School Athletic Association rules forbade her team from competing with other teams as long as she proposed to play. After a day's trial, as he announced his decision from the bench enjoining enforcement of the rule, she rushed from the room, glove in hand. When he wondered aloud what he had done wrong, he got this answer: "She's late for practice, Judge." That young woman, on account of her ability to compete, earned a college scholarship and an education she would not have had access to without his decision. She is a coach today, I am told.

He was much sought after as a speaker and one speech bears particular mention. On the occasion of his retirement as Chief Judge, I believe it was, there was one of those huge festive gatherings of the worthies of bench and bar to celebrate his career and, as usual, his remarks were warmly anticipated. When a distinguished colleague of his pulled her guitar from under the table, faced him and sang a song about him, that was a hard act to follow. As he rose to speak, though, he mastered the crowd. "I'll not talk long," he said. "I have just 482 words for you, important words, many of which many of you have forgotten, or had no occasion to study for far too long." And then he read the Bill of Rights to the gathering.

He lived his last years in Cambridge, Massachusetts, under the watchful eye of his beloved daughter Pat and was laid to rest in his beloved Petersburg. We miss him but his life and lessons, his spirit and his sagacity, his wit and wisdom, live on in our hearts, enriching us all.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN COM-
MEMORATES GOLDEN TEMPLE
MASSACRE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on June 3 Sikhs from around the East Coast gathered here in Washington to commemorate the June 1984 attack on the Golden Temple by the Indian government. That attack occurred simultaneously with attacks on 37 other Gurdwaras in what came to be known as Operation Bluestar. Operation Bluestar took the lives of over 20,000 Sikhs in Punjab.

The demonstration was organized by the Council of Khalistan, which has been leading the peaceful, nonviolent, democratic Sikh

struggle for independence for almost 20 years, ever since Khalistan declared its independence from India in 1987.

Mr. Speaker, given the repression of the Sikhs and other minorities, such as Christians, Muslims, and others, I think we would do well for America to support the freedom movement in Khalistan and throughout the subcontinent. This is especially so given that India has a history of anti-American activities.

It is time to press India to pay attention to human rights by stopping our aid and trade with that country and it is time to put the Congress on record in support of self-determination. The essence of democracy is the right to self-determination.

I would like to add the Council of Khalistan's press release on its June 3 demonstration to the RECORD at this time.

SIKHS COMMEMORATE GOLDEN TEMPLE
ATTACK

WASHINGTON, DC, June 3, 2006.—Sikhs from Philadelphia, Florida, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, and elsewhere on the East Coast gathered in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, June 3 to commemorate the Indian government's brutal military attack on the Golden Temple, the center and seat of the Sikh religion, and 125 other Sikh Gurdwaras throughout Punjab, in June 1984, in which over 20,000 Sikhs were murdered. They chanted slogans such as "India out of Khalistan", "Khalistan Zindabad", and others. In addition, demonstrations were held in several other cities throughout the world.

During the Golden Temple attack, young boys ages 8 to 13 were taken outside and asked if they supported Khalistan, the independent Sikh country. When they answered with the Sikh religious incantation "Bole So Nihaf," they were shot to death. The Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh holy scriptures, written in the time of the Sikh Gurus, were shot full of bullet holes and burned by the Indian forces.

The Golden Temple attack was a brutal chapter in India's repression of the Sikhs, according to Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, the government pro tempore of Khalistan, which leads the struggle for Khalistan's independence. "Sikhs cannot forgive or forget this atrocity against the seat of our religion by the Indian government," said Dr. Aulakh. "This brutal attack clarified that there is no place in India for Sikhs," he said. On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence from India, naming its new country Khalistan.

"Sant Bhindranwale said that attacking the Golden Temple would lay the foundation stone of Khalistan, and he was right," said Dr. Aulakh. "Instead of crushing the Sikh movement for Khalistan, as India intended, the attack strengthened it," he said. "The flame of freedom still burns bright in the hearts of Sikhs despite the deployment of over half a million Indian troops to crush it," he said.

A report issued by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR) shows that India admitted that it held 52,268 political prisoners under the repressive "Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act" (TADA) even though it expired in 1995. Many have been in illegal custody since 1984. There has been no list published of those who were acquitted under TADA and those who are still rotting in Indian jails. Additionally, according to Amnesty International, there are tens of thousands of other minorities being held as political prisoners. MASR report quotes the Punjab Civil Magistracy as writing "if we add up the figures of the last few years the number of innocent persons killed would run

into lakhs [hundreds of thousands.]" The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, over 90,000 Muslims in Kashmir, tens of thousands of Christians and Muslims throughout the country, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Manipuris, and others. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government's murders of Sikhs "worse than a genocide."

In the introduction to former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's new book, *The Mighty and the Almighty*, former U.S. President Bill Clinton writes that "Hindu militants" are responsible for the massacre of 38 Sikhs at Chithisinghpura in March 2000. This

reflects previous findings by the Punjab Human Rights Organization, the International Human Rights Organization, the Movement Against State Repression, and New York Times reporter Barry Bearak. President Clinton writes, "During my visit to India in 2000, some Hindu militants decided to vent their outrage by murdering 38 Sikhs in cold blood. If I hadn't made the trip, the victims would probably still be alive."

"Only in a free Khalistan will the Sikh Nation prosper and get justice," said Dr. Aulakh. "When Khalistan is free, we will have our own Ambassadors, our own representation in the UN and other international bodies, and our own leaders to keep

this sort of thing from happening. We won't be at the mercy of the brutal Indian regime and its Hindu militant allies," he said. "Democracies don't commit genocide. India should act like a democracy and allow a plebiscite on independence for Khalistan and all the nations of South Asia," Dr. Aulakh said. "As Professor Darshan Singh, a former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, said, 'If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh'," Dr. Aulakh noted. "We must continue to pray for and work for our God-given birthright of freedom," he said. "Without political power, religions cannot flourish and nations perish."